OFFICE OF ZONING AND ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY

PETITION OF SIENA LEARNING, LLC : Case No. S-2822 d/b/a The Siena School : OZAH No. 12-11 :

A hearing in the above-entitled matter was held on January 6, 2012, commencing at 9:41 a.m., at the Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850 before:

Martin L. Grossman Hearing Examiner

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APPEARANCES

On Behalf of the Petitioner:

Jody S. Kline, Esq.

<u>Witnesses</u> :	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT
Margot Cook	20		
David Meininger	26		
Clay Kaufman	33		
Craig Hedberg, Expert	84		
Aaron Smith, Expert	96		
F. Thompson Wheeler, Expert	122	142	143

ALSO PRESENT:

Eric Heyer Tom Carr Martin Maher

E X H I B I T S

EXHIBIT NO	<u>·</u>	Marked/Received
1-22	Premarked Exhibits	145
23	A/B Parking and Cuing Plans	49/145
24	Parks E-mail Re Parking	69/145
25	Resume of C. Hedberg	84/145
26	Resume of A. Smith	99/145
27	A-B Revised Site Plans	103/145
28	Revised Landscape Plan	104/145
29	Letter: Storm Water Management Plan	111/145
30	Resume of F.T. Wheeler	122/145
31	Letter: Building Height Calculation	135/145

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- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: This is a public hearing in the
- 3 petition of Siena Learning, LLC, doing business as the Siena
- 4 School, Board of Appeals number S-2822, OZAH number 12-11.
- 5 Petition for a new private educational institution special
- 6 exception to allow a private school ultimately for 225
- 7 students and 55 employees.
- 8 The property is located at 1300 Forest Glen Road,
- 9 Silver Spring, Maryland on 2.7 acres in the R-60 zone. The
- 10 special exception is sought pursuant to zoning code section
- 11 59-G-2.19. Applicant also requests a waiver of section
- 12 59-E-2.83 parking standards from the minimum parking setback
- 13 requirements along the east side of the 1.23 acre Boys and
- 14 Girls Club parcel.
- My name is Martin Grossman. I'm the hearing
- 16 examiner, which means I will take evidence in this case, and
- 17 write a report and recommendation to the Board of Appeals
- 18 which will make the decision in the case. Will the parties
- 19 identify themselves, please?
- MR. KLINE: Good morning. For the record my name
- 21 is Jody Kline. I'm an attorney with the law firm of Miller,
- 22 Miller and Canby with offices at 200-B Monroe Street here in
- 23 Rockville, and I represent the petitioner Siena Learning,
- 24 LLC.
- 25 MR. GROSSMAN: I notice that we have a number of

- 1 people in the audience here. Is there anybody in the
- 2 audience who wishes to be heard as a witness who is not
- 3 being called by Mr. Kline? All right. Ma'am, you wish to
- 4 be heard as a witness today?
- 5 MS. COOK: Yes.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Would you state your name, please,
- 7 and address?
- 8 MS. COOK: Margot Cook. 1603 Myrtle Road, Silver
- 9 Spring 20902.
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Is the Margot spelled with a
- 11 T at the end?
- 12 MS. COOK: With a T at the end and no E in Cook.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MS. COOK: Thank you.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And did you wish to be
- 16 heard in support, in opposition, or just with concerns?
- MS. COOK: In support.
- MR. GROSSMAN: In support. Okay. Is there
- 19 anybody else in the audience who wishes to be heard? Sir?
- MR. MEININGER: My name is J. David Meininger,
- 21 spelled, M-E-I-N-I-N-G-E-R.
- MR. GROSSMAN: M-E-I-N --
- MR. MEININGER: I-N-G-E-R.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Meininger. Okay.
- MR. MEININGER: I reside at 10123 Greenock,

1 spelled, G-R-E-E-N-O-C-K, Road, Silver Spring, Maryland

- 2 20901.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 4 MR. MEININGER: And I am testifying in favor of
- 5 the petitioner.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Anybody else? Seeing no
- 7 other hands, I take it we have no opposition here to testify
- 8 today. There are two witnesses in support. And I presume
- 9 Mr. Kline will be calling witnesses. Who are you calling,
- 10 Mr. Kline?
- 11 MR. KLINE: Yes, Mr. Grossman. We have four
- 12 witnesses, some substitutions for witnesses we had listed in
- 13 our statement before.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MR. KLINE: The initial witness will be Mr. Clay
- 16 Kaufman, K-A-U-F-M-A-N, representing the school itself.
- 17 Mr. Aaron Smith, will be testifying as an expert in civil
- 18 engineering.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So he's in lieu of Max
- 20 Cantor?
- 21 MR. KLINE: That's correct.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. I'm sorry. What's
- 23 Aaron's last name?
- MR. KLINE: Aaron Smith. The architect, the
- 25 expert architect we'd like to offer is Mr. Tom Wheeler, who

1 I think is, I can't remember if I put in Mr. Spack's name or

- 2 Mr. Spack and/or Mr. Wheeler. But Mr. Wheeler will be
- 3 testifying as our architectural witness.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Right. You had listed Mr. Spack.
- 5 MR. KLINE: And Mr. Craig Hedberg, who needs no
- 6 introduction.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: No, he doesn't. But I noticed you
- 8 listed the poor man last again.
- 9 MR. KLINE: Well, actually, I think you'll hear
- 10 from him earlier today. I'm going to estimate,
- 11 Mr. Grossman, probably three and a half to four hours. And
- 12 I did offer to the folks who came early that I would suspend
- 13 our presentation after our initial discussions to let them
- 14 speak, if you'd like us to do that.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Certainly. I think that usually we
- 16 have permitted citizens who come to testify, and if the
- 17 applicant is agreeable, we'll take them out of order for
- 18 their convenience. You're certainly welcome, if you
- 19 testify, you can testify in the normal order, which would be
- 20 after the applicant's case, or beforehand. And you are
- 21 certainly welcome, either way, to stay the whole time and
- 22 participate in the proceedings. All right.
- 23 Let me explain a little bit about the nature of
- 24 the proceedings here. This is a petition for a special
- 25 exception, and a special exception is a use that's

- 1 conditionally permitted. It's not a variance from the
- 2 statute, the zoning ordinance. It is actually a use that is
- 3 permitted if certain conditions are met, both special
- 4 conditions that are specified for this particular type of
- 5 special exception, private educational institution, and
- 6 general conditions that are specified for almost all special
- 7 exceptions.
- 8 We conduct the proceedings pretty much the way you
- 9 would see a courtroom conducted. Witnesses are sworn in.
- 10 They are subject to cross-examination. There is a court
- 11 reporter who takes everything down. There will be a
- 12 transcript of the proceedings. And it's done in a more or
- 13 less orderly fashion, the way you see in a courtroom, but a
- 14 little bit less formal than a courtroom, however. The rules
- 15 of evidence are similar but not identical. Okay.
- 16 I have a few preliminary matters. Please submit
- 17 electronic copies of any revised plans or submissions that
- 18 may be, that may come up at the hearing, Mr. Kline. I
- 19 wanted to disclose, my wife teaches at another private
- 20 school in the County, that is the Norwood School. If anyone
- 21 feels this creates a conflict, please state an objection,
- 22 now. Mr. Kline?
- 23 MR. KLINE: I will say that Mr. Kaufman had a
- 24 conversation with Mr. Ewing last night, and your name came
- 25 up, and we have no objection to you participating.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: For the record, Mr. Ewing is the

- 2 headmaster at the Norwood School. All right. Let me
- 3 mention, I made some corrections to the staff report, the
- 4 technical staff report.
- 5 We get a report from the technical staff of the
- 6 Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. And
- 7 we usually just call them the technical staff. They
- 8 indicated that there were corrections to be made in their
- 9 report, which is Exhibit 17 in this case. And I actually
- 10 made those corrections directly in the formal file copy,
- 11 Mr. Kline. But there were a couple I didn't mention on the
- 12 front page, page one, that I made.
- They listed the acreage, the leased area, from the
- 14 M-NCPPC as 1.25 acres. I think it's, let's see, it's 2.5
- 15 acres. It's actually 1.5 acres, if I understand correctly.
- MR. KLINE: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So I made that change on the front.
- 18 It's 1.2 acres from the Boys and Girls Club, and 1.5 acres
- 19 from M-NCPPC. Also, they listed the date of the hearing
- 20 here as 1/5/2011. I corrected it to 1/6/2012, also on page
- 21 one.
- They indicated corrections on page seven, and
- 23 they, I have made that correction in page seven in the staff
- 24 report in the first sentence under environmental planning,
- 25 corrected page. And I made that correction.

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1 And then the attachment six, which was the
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- 2 transportation staff's report, was also amended. And I put
- 3 in the amended report so that the actual report in the file
- 4 reflects the corrections. Okay.
- 5 Now, technical staff also recommended revision to
- 6 the landscape plan, additional lighting, a transportation
- 7 management plan, and other particulars amounting to a
- 8 revised statement of operations. Has anything like that
- 9 been filed? I didn't see anything additional filed in
- 10 response to that.
- 11 MR. KLINE: I'm confusing it possibly with
- 12 Fairland Animal Clinic. No, sir. The answer is no. We did
- 13 not submit an amended statement of operations. I was
- 14 planning on addressing all those issues as part of the
- 15 testimony. But they can be incorporated in an amended
- 16 statement, if you'd like that to be done also.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Yes, I think you need something
- 18 which states with greater particularity the special events.
- 19 If you want to see samples that we have had in relatively
- 20 recent private educational institution cases, Norbeck
- 21 School, check that report online S-2802, and the German
- 22 School modification report, CBA-2684-C. And that, which
- 23 also has a transportation management plan. I notice you
- 24 don't have a transportation management plan, and that was
- 25 being recommended here.

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1 MR. KLINE: The answer is yes, we do not have one.
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- 2 We haven't developed that yet. I didn't realize that it was
- 3 expected to be part of the testimony today. Certainly, our
- 4 testimony will cover how we're going to operate it, but I
- 5 thought that would be something that would be submitted
- 6 after to Park and Planning.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, usually it's part of the
- 8 special exception process so that --
- 9 MR. KLINE: Okay. All right. I will say, the
- 10 staff didn't leave me with that impression that it was
- 11 something that they needed to have before they or you go
- 12 ahead and decide the case.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well it effects, the reason it
- 14 would be part of the special exception process is, I presume
- 15 you are going to need subdivision here?
- MR. KLINE: Actually, we don't.
- MR. GROSSMAN: You don't. Okay. So no
- 18 subdivision.
- MR. KLINE: Because we are a platted property.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Especially if you don't have
- 21 subdivision, but even if you do have subdivision, the
- 22 transportation management plan affects compatibility with
- 23 the surroundings, and is usually a big issue.
- MR. KLINE: I understand. Sure.
- MR. GROSSMAN: And that's why it's -- you know,

1 you don't have any opposition here, so we may get away with

- 2 not having a second hearing date. If you had opposition
- 3 here, we'd obviously have to have --
- 4 MR. KLINE: Sure.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: -- a second hearing date after that
- 6 for them to evaluate it. As it is, once it's submitted to
- 7 technical staff and to our office at the same time --
- 8 MR. KLINE: I understand.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: -- we'll have to have a certain
- 10 number of days for people to review it and make any comments
- 11 they might wish to make.
- MR. KLINE: Sure. I understand.
- 13 MR. GROSSMAN: If that requires an additional
- 14 hearing, then we'll have to have it.
- MR. KLINE: Okay.
- MR. GROSSMAN: But we hope not. Okay. And as to
- 17 special events, usually they are specified in terms of the
- 18 nature of the event, the frequency, when it occurs, the
- 19 number of participants and cars that are expected and how
- 20 they would be handled on a particular, for a particular
- 21 event.
- MR. KLINE: The Norbeck School and German School
- 23 references were for the traffic management plan?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Actually, German School had a
- 25 traffic management plan. I don't recall. I don't think that

1 Norbeck School did, but they had, they also had a statement

- 2 of operations that you could take a look at. It was little
- 3 bit less extensive than the one for German School. But
- 4 German School had a very extensive one.
- 5 MR. KLINE: Sure. Norbeck School was Ms. Carter's
- 6 case before you, the Norbeck Montessori?
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: It's Norbeck Montessori. I'm not
- 8 sure whether it was Ms. Carter. I can't recall.
- 9 MR. KLINE: Okay.
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. But they're all online on
- 11 our website.
- MR. KLINE: Sure. Well, we certainly have the
- 13 traffic management program for other schools. It will just
- 14 be a matter of getting it done quickly then.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You also need to have
- 16 some of your witnesses explain exactly how the timing is
- 17 going to work out --
- 18 MR. KLINE: Yes. Right.
- 19 MR. GROSSMAN: -- in conjunction with the two
- 20 entities sharing this property, as long as they're sharing
- 21 the property. I wasn't quite sure how exactly that was set
- 22 up.
- 23 MR. KLINE: Yes. We're familiar with the Board's
- 24 transmittal letter to you explaining. We wanted to make
- 25 sure we got it straight here with you. Yes, sir.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: And are there any other preliminary

- 2 or procedural matters?
- MR. KLINE: I would say this. I went down to have
- 4 the affidavit of posting signed and unfortunately, we don't
- 5 have a notary at the Board of Appeals today. So what I
- 6 would like to do is, when we take a break, I'll take
- 7 Mr. Kaufman over to my office and have it signed and
- 8 notarized there, and put it into the record. So you'll have
- 9 it today. I'm just not sure you'll have it during our
- 10 meeting today.
- 11 And the other things I was going to say is, just a
- 12 little bit of an explanation. And this is by way of my
- 13 opening statement, if you're okay with that.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Certainly. Sure.
- MR. KLINE: One, I'm not really sure that we
- 16 needed a parking waiver, because it's this unusual situation
- 17 of having, because of the lease line and the lot line --
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 19 MR. KLINE: -- having parking up against a
- 20 property line, but still within the larger parameter or
- 21 perimeter of the special exception.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right. That same thought occurred
- 23 to me. I wasn't sure, given that you are going to be
- 24 leasing the property adjacent to it, I'm not sure that you
- 25 require a waiver along the parking line. But there

1 shouldn't be much of a dispute about it, given those

- 2 circumstances.
- MR. KLINE: Right. Well, because timing is
- 4 critical to us in this case, it was easier to accede to
- 5 Ms. Kamen's suggestion than it was to argue about it.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 7 MR. KLINE: Because then we would have possibly
- 8 lost our hearing date. And that was going to be fatal to
- 9 us. So we've applied for it. We'll present why we can
- 10 satisfy it. But I'm not sure, legally, it was actually
- 11 essential to the application.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. And why is the timing so
- 13 critical in your case? You used the word fatal.
- MR. KLINE: Just so you get the deep background.
- 15 The school plans to occupy the space itself on September 1st
- 16 of 2012. And every day that we can be in construction
- 17 between now and then we need. So we've been doing a lot of
- 18 things maybe a little differently than we normally would,
- 19 simply to be able to keep the date and be able to get into
- 20 construction as quickly as possible.
- 21 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. That is for the initial
- 22 renovation as you mentioned in the papers?
- MR. KLINE: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MR. KLINE: No new construction externally, just

1 internally. And the other thing I was going to say, just so

- 2 you understand kind of my theory about how we handle the
- 3 Boys and Girls Club, you probably picked up from the
- 4 application, actually I should ask, have you had chance to
- 5 make a site visit yet?
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: No.
- 7 MR. KLINE: Okay.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, I'm familiar, let me say I'm
- 9 familiar with the area --
- 10 MR. KLINE: Sure.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: -- since I have occasionally gone
- 12 and --
- MR. KLINE: Gone to the hospital?
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: -- hit golf balls at Sligo Creek
- 15 Park.
- MR. KLINE: Okay.
- MR. GROSSMAN: And in fact, probably some of my
- 18 hits have ended up in your back yard there.
- 19 MR. KLINE: Well, the only reason I ask that is
- 20 because people will be more specific when they answer
- 21 questions. If you've been there, they would probably be a
- 22 little looser in their answers.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- MR. KLINE: But the Boys and Girls Club today has
- 25 a special exception as a private club. And so we had two

- 1 options. One was to preserve that special exception and
- 2 overlay the school over it, or to basically extinguish the
- 3 Boys and Girls Club and incorporate it into our special
- 4 exception under the other uses that are permitted with
- 5 schools. And Mr. Kaufman will testify, we meet all those
- 6 criteria.
- 7 So we ended up taking the latter course of action.
- 8 And I just wanted to explain, that's how we did it.
- 9 Eventually, when this is all hopefully granted, and Boys and
- 10 Girls Club, I will write the Board of Appeals and they can
- 11 extinguish the Boys and Girls Club special exception, but it
- 12 does have two representatives here today, just to make sure
- 13 we do this right because they want to be there as long as
- 14 they need to be there.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- MR. KLINE: So that's just my explanation why we
- 17 handled that part of it. We don't have a land use planner
- 18 on this case. I know that was an issue in the case I had
- 19 with you a couple of weeks ago.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- MR. KLINE: We do adopt the staff's recommendation
- 22 of the neighborhood and I think our testimony will talk
- 23 about how the impact is really concentrated within that
- 24 area. And the conditions are all acceptable to the
- 25 applicant, but for the changes you've made, and the one that

1 we're going to talk about, condition number 13, about ADA

- 2 compatibility. We believe that's all satisfied by the
- 3 design changes.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Well, I don't have any
- 5 preconception as to whether one is needed in this case. In
- 6 your other case we had that wrinkle of whether or not there
- 7 was compatibility given the --
- 8 MR. KLINE: Yes.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: -- what we thought the statute said
- 10 when there was a mis-codification in the statute. So that
- 11 had created an issue in my mind. You may well be okay
- 12 without one here. I'm not prejudging that.
- 13 MR. KLINE: Could I ask for one more thing?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Certainly.
- MR. KLINE: I didn't think about it until you
- 16 mentioned the exhibit list, but normally there's a pile on
- 17 the table, and I didn't see one when I came in. Could I
- 18 take a moment and go next door and get one from your staff?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Absolutely.
- 20 MR. KLINE: Okay. Be right back.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Sure.
- 22 (Discussion off the record.)
- 23 MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, but for drawing your
- 24 attention to Exhibit number 10, the zoning vicinity map,
- 25 which is posted on the board over there, I really don't have

1 much of an opening statement other than to just refresh your

- 2 memory from your recreational outings in the neighborhood.
- 3 And the property owned by the Boys and Girls Club, which is
- 4 under contract to Siena Learning, LLC or Inc., rather, is
- 5 the hard line red area of the box. And then the cross-
- 6 hatched area around it is the proximate location of the
- 7 lease area from Maryland National Capital Park and Planning
- 8 Commission.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: I can't recall, are the same
- 10 markings on Exhibit 10 in the file?
- 11 MR. KLINE: Yes. What is posted is identical to
- 12 what you should have in your case file. And while you're
- 13 doing that, just by deep background, I guess, because it
- 14 does kind of explain some of the other twists in this case,
- 15 the building height issue that comes up also, is the
- 16 property was acquired by Boys and Girls Club from Park and
- 17 Planning Commission originally.
- And that's why there was always such a general
- 19 understanding from the mid-fifties. There was no lease
- 20 arrangement for the parking that exists today on there.
- 21 Looking at Exhibit number 10 on the right hand side where
- 22 there is a notation that says, Beattie Drive.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Yes.
- MR. KLINE: That's the access on the property.
- 25 That's over Park and Planning's land, and that's existed on

- 1 a handshake deal since 1955. And basically, this
- 2 application caused everybody to kind of tighten everything
- 3 up to do that.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: You had mentioned to me that there
- 5 was potentially a height issue in the case. Has that been
- 6 resolved now?
- 7 MR. KLINE: Yes. We'll be putting on testimony as
- 8 to why it's been satisfied.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 10 MR. KLINE: Well, let me put it this way; an
- 11 explanation why the existing building got its original
- 12 building permit, and a letter from the Department of
- 13 Permitting Services indicating in the future they will treat
- 14 Beattie Drive/Omaha Beach Drive as a street for purposes of
- 15 height measurement.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- MR. KLINE: Having said all that, that's all I
- 18 have by way of an opening statement, and I'm glad to call my
- 19 first witness, if you're poised to do so.
- 20 MR. GROSSMAN: Should we first invite Margot
- 21 Cook --
- MR. KLINE: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: -- to take the stand.
- MR. KLINE: All right. Sure.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Ms. Cook.

1 MS. COOK: Sorry. Do I have to give my name and

- 2 everything again?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Yes, please. For the record, state
- 4 your name and --
- 5 MS. COOK: Okay. Margot Cook. 1603 Myrtle Road,
- 6 Silver Spring, Maryland 20902.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: And Ms. Cook, would you raise your
- 8 right hand, please?
- 9 (Witness sworn.)
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed.
- 11 STATEMENT OF MARGOT COOK
- 12 THE WITNESS: Well, I don't think I was eligible,
- 13 I think Boys and Girls Club came after our moving into that
- 14 neighborhood because we moved in 1950. And things have
- 15 changed enormously since then.
- MR. GROSSMAN: How close are you to the subject
- 17 site?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I'm on the opposite side of Forest
- 19 Glen Road, almost opposite the hospital.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 21 THE WITNESS: First road up.
- MR. KLINE: Is this Myrtle there?
- 23 THE WITNESS: No, the next one. No. Turn. Go to
- 24 Forest Glen.
- MR. KLINE: Here's the hospital here. Here's the

- 1 hospital here, and here's Forest Glen.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. Right where you're tip is,
- 3 you're going to parallel Forest Glen.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Myrtle is the first street
- 5 up --
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: First street up.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- parallel to Forest Glen.
- 8 MR. KLINE: Parallel to Forest Glen.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes. You're one higher, I think.
- 10 MR. KLINE: Okay. I see it now. Yes. Thank you.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right.
- 12 MR. KLINE: So this is Forest Grove Drive?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes. But we're --
- 14 MR. KLINE: Sure.
- 15 THE WITNESS: -- one house off of --
- MR. KLINE: Off of Damar --
- 17 THE WITNESS: Dameron.
- 18 MR. KLINE: All right. So you'd be about here
- 19 then.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: That gives me an idea. Thank you.
- 22 MR. KLINE: Lot 14.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I don't know which one. I just got
- 24 my assessment, but I didn't look at the lot number.
- MR. KLINE: That wasn't the number you looked at,

- 1 I'm sure, on the assessment bill.
- THE WITNESS: At any rate, we've seen a lot of
- 3 changes in the neighborhood.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Some good, some bad. We have lots
- 6 of people there now that didn't have -- or there are more
- 7 people with children now than when I was growing up, but it
- 8 was only partially developed at that point. There weren't
- 9 more than five houses on our entire block.
- 10 But the Boys and Girls Club always has had a good
- 11 reputation, and from our meetings with and observation of
- 12 the members of Siena School, they have been very positive.
- 13 One thing that's very noticeable in our neighborhood is that
- 14 they use the Getty Park, which is just almost on Georgia
- 15 Avenue, or at Georgia Avenue, two blocks or three blocks
- 16 over from the school.
- 17 And the children seem to have a good time.
- 18 They're also well behaved. I mean, they are just very
- 19 pleasant and do what they're supposed to do, and not running
- 20 all over the street. They stay within the normal bounds of
- 21 travel or on pavement.
- 22 And we were asked on several occasions to come
- 23 visit the school. And this was our association, Forest
- 24 Grove, which is just north of Forest Glen and Northmont,
- 25 which is the civic association to the south of Forest Glen.

1 And this all cuts off by the park. And then the one above

- 2 us, Forest Estates, goes all the way to Debits Drive.
- I must say, we did not have a great turnout for
- 4 those presentations, but they were very impressive and they
- 5 were given principally by the students from the school. And
- 6 a couple of us kept saying, gee, I don't know, if I were 11
- 7 or 12 I'm not sure that I could give that kind of a
- 8 presentation in front of a group of adults. And especially
- 9 for children who had language learning disabilities,
- 10 specifically.
- We also have a neighbor directly behind us who has
- 12 a son, I think he's still there, I don't know if he's
- 13 graduated from the school, and we've watched him with his
- 14 experiments outside in the back yard, when he was trying
- 15 different things. And I'm just really impressed to see,
- 16 having been a teacher myself, you know, the kinds of things
- 17 they seem to be achieving and doing with the students.
- And there's a lot of need for special needs. And
- 19 while some of these children are not extreme in needs, but
- 20 they mostly have the language problems, but they are bright
- 21 kids and deserve a good solid education which they seem to
- 22 provide.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So your bottom line is
- 24 that you're in favor of the special exception?
- 25 THE WITNESS: Definitely. Yes. This sounds like

- 1 a good match.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Kline, do you have
- 3 any --
- 4 BY MR. KLINE:
- 5 Q Ms. Cook, my only question is, are you speaking as
- 6 an individual, or you mentioned your homeowners association.
- 7 Are you speaking on behalf of them?
- 8 A I'd say I could say that I just, January 1st,
- 9 stepped down as president. But there's a letter in there
- 10 form the current president, too.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Thank you.
- 12 THE WITNESS: We've had meetings about this.
- 13 MR. KLINE: Thank you very much.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: When you say there's a letter in
- 15 there, and you pointed to --
- 16 THE WITNESS: Oh, I believe you have received a
- 17 letter from --
- MR. GROSSMAN: I have not received a letter that
- 19 I can recall.
- 20 MR. KLINE: We did submit some letters --
- MR. GROSSMAN: When was that?
- 22 MR. KLINE: -- of support Mr. Grossman. It's
- 23 Exhibit 16A from Mr. Moreau.
- MR. GROSSMAN: I'm sorry. This is a filing that
- 25 you made and attached the letters.

- 1 MR. KLINE: Yes.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: And I see that Ms. Cook signed that
- 3 letter in support. Okay.
- 4 THE WITNESS: And Mike Moreau is listed on that
- 5 list, and he's the current president.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 7 THE WITNESS: We're kind of all real happy with
- 8 this situation, as compared to other ones that we've come
- 9 across.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 11 THE WITNESS: And I'm sure you know that.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Thank you, Ms. Cook.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. GROSSMAN: You're welcome, as I say, to stay
- 15 and if you have any questions of the witnesses who testify,
- 16 speak up, and we'll let you ask those questions of the
- 17 witnesses.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
- 19 MR. GROSSMAN: All right, then. Mr. Meininger,
- 20 would you step forward, please.
- MR. MEININGER: Good morning.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Good morning.
- 23 MR. MEININGER: My name is J, as in the initial
- 24 for John, middle name David, last name Meininger, spelled --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Meininger. Sorry.

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1 MR. MEININGER: -- M-E-I-N-I-N-G-E-R.
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- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: It didn't take me very long to
- 3 mispronounce it, did it? Mr. Meininger, would you raise
- 4 your right hand, please?
- 5 (Witness sworn.)
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed.
- 7 STATEMENT OF J. DAVID MEININGER
- 8 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir. Our bottom line in
- 9 my neighborhood which is South Four Corners bounded by
- 10 Forest Glen Road, Penbrook, Dennis Avenue, and University
- 11 Boulevard. I reside at Greenock Road, Upper Greenock, as I
- 12 refer to it, yet I pass by the Boys and Girls Club on a
- 13 daily basis using Forest Glen Road.
- 14 My testimony will not be about the students. It
- 15 will be more about the leadership of the school. I was
- 16 impressed that Mr. Kaufman reached out to our civic
- 17 association, South Four Corners Civic Association, early in
- 18 2011, and made us aware of his plan for the school, and the
- 19 school's plan, and has had subsequent meetings with the
- 20 civic association at its meetings. And I personally have
- 21 also had a one-on-one meeting with Mr. Kaufman.
- The issues for my neighborhood concerning the Boys
- 23 and Girls Club have been the nighttime events which have
- 24 required parking beyond the current parking lot's
- 25 capability. That parking has overflowed into the

- 1 neighborhood bordered by Forest Glen and Penbrook.
- 2 The overall feeling is that it is unfortunate that
- 3 people who are attending these nighttime events are not
- 4 considerate of the neighbor's ability to get in and out of
- 5 their parking lots. There has been public urination, as
- 6 well as an accumulation of trash. This has required,
- 7 several times, of involving the Montgomery County Police to
- 8 make things more orderly.
- 9 It is my expectation from the meetings with
- 10 Mr. Kaufman, that in the event of nighttime activity, there
- 11 will be none of the cars associated with activities, that
- 12 activity, being parked in our community.
- I was pleased to hear that he has made an
- 14 arrangement with the Maryland National Capital Park and
- 15 Planning Commission to use the parking lot of the Margaret
- 16 Schweinhaut Senior Citizen facility, and possibly Argyle
- 17 Park. That was very encouraging.
- He has made a definitive statement, none of our
- 19 cars will park in your neighborhood. We find that
- 20 encouraging, and we will hold him to that expectation that
- 21 he has set.
- On the issue, other issues of transportation,
- 23 Forest Glen is a busy thoroughfare in both directions, to
- 24 Sligo Creek Park, and away from Sligo Creek Park. The
- 25 intersection that allows parking to go to and from the Boys

- 1 and Girls Club, can be disruptive. And there is a
- 2 procession of moms and dads. There are Montgomery County
- 3 school buses coming and going, both at the beginning and the
- 4 ending of school.
- We are encouraged, also, that Mr. Kaufman has a
- 6 parking plan that would include the use of the Ride-On bus
- 7 from Forest Glen metro station, the ability of the students
- 8 to walk about three-quarters of a mile further than where
- 9 they care currently housed at the church at the intersection
- 10 of Forest Glen and Georgia Avenue.
- The also have a van pooling process, and their car
- 12 pooling expectation is that their cuing of cars coming and
- 13 going will not impede the traffic on Forest Glen.
- 14 We're also encouraged that one of the first phases
- 15 that the Siena School will be doing will be relining the
- 16 existing parking lot to incorporate more parking spaces.
- 17 As I mentioned, the nighttime activities have been
- 18 an issue with our community and Boys and Girls Club. And as
- 19 I mentioned, they will be using the parking area of the
- 20 Margaret Schweinhart Center.
- Our hope is that on days of poor weather, they
- 22 will use their shuttle bus to move back and forth those who
- 23 will be attending the nighttime activities at the Boys -- at
- 24 the Siena School, back-to-school night, et cetera.
- 25 We also have the expectation of concluding that

1 the Siena School will purchase and occupy the current Boys

- 2 and Girls Club building, that -- excuse me. I think I lost
- 3 my thought. That they will be able to use their pool, their
- 4 van pool for moving traffic back and forth, therefore not
- 5 putting the pedestrians at risk. Only one side of Forest
- 6 Glen is with sidewalk.
- 7 An appropriate crosswalk would allow for, would
- 8 require crossing Forest Glen at least twice, if you're a
- 9 walker. If the weather is good, they can walk the field at
- 10 Argyle Park, down some steps, and they're at the facility.
- We understand that Siena's growth plans are driven
- 12 by student enrollment. We have had discussions concerning
- 13 the upper end number of students, the 225 student count, and
- 14 the 55 staff. Our expectations are that this may or may not
- 15 happen, depending on the growth of their student body. I
- 16 think we have reconciled that we are amenable to these
- 17 numbers, and do expect that as those number increase, and as
- 18 their construction phases are brought into place, they will
- 19 continue their open and candid discussion of the civic
- 20 association.
- 21 So it's for the record I am, in fact, the elected
- 22 president of the South Four Corners Civic Association.
- 23 Unfortunately, I do not talk for that civic association. I
- 24 talk for myself as an individual.
- I mention this only because I want to impress upon

1 you that I have the ears of the community, that I'm hearing

- 2 their comments and their concerns, and I hope I have
- 3 prefaced that in this well.
- 4 Overall, we feel, based on the expectation of
- 5 Siena School taking possession of the building and occupying
- 6 it as a school, that it is evidently, and I think
- 7 intelligently, dependent upon a special exception being
- 8 granted.
- 9 And we feel the Siena School, myself and what I am
- 10 hearing from my neighbors, that we feel that Siena School
- 11 will be a preferred neighbor. They will, in fact, be in the
- 12 borders of our community, and therefore our neighbors.
- 13 Based on the expectations that have been given to us by Clay
- 14 Kaufman and the management team of the Siena School, we are
- 15 in favor of the special exception and I must tell you, I
- 16 speak for myself as an individual, but would like to impress
- 17 upon you that I have the ears of the community.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Has the South Four Corners Civic
- 19 Association itself taken a position?
- THE WITNESS: It has chosen not to, and the reason
- 21 for it is that we have an ongoing issue with a developer
- 22 that wishes to develop a property at Brunette and University
- 23 Boulevard into a daycare center. And we are opposing that.
- 24 We did not want to have a potential conflict and give the
- 25 developer an impression that we were targeting him and not

1 the Siena School, and, you know, opposite opinions. We are

- 2 opposed to the daycare center. We are in favor of the Siena
- 3 School.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Right. I take it that, from
- 5 hearing your testimony, that your chief concerns relate to
- 6 traffic and parking?
- 7 THE WITNESS: That is correct.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 9 THE WITNESS: And if I might add, management of
- 10 nighttime activity.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Now, I don't see
- 12 recommended by the technical staff a specific condition
- 13 regarding the parking, other than to develop the parking
- 14 plan, that you suggested you were going to hold Mr. Kaufman
- 15 to.
- And usually when a special exception holder is
- 17 going to be held to something we have a condition specified
- 18 in the, well, we recommend a condition and the Board of
- 19 Appeals usually will adopt a condition that will exercise
- 20 that control in a more direct way so that it can be
- 21 enforceable, rather than just by public feeling, by law
- 22 enforcement.
- 23 So I would ask that you, since the transportation
- 24 management plan has not yet been devised, that you discuss
- 25 with Mr. Kline and Mr. Kline with you, what would be an

- 1 appropriate condition or conditions that could be
- 2 recommended to the Board of Appeals to make sure that
- 3 parking does not interfere with your neighborhood's
- 4 operations.
- And so that would be part of the submittal that
- 6 would come in to me before the record is closed in this
- 7 case, so that the Board of Appeals can make an appropriate
- 8 decision and impose appropriate conditions. So Mr. Kline,
- 9 are you agreeable to doing that with Mr. Meininger?
- 10 MR. KLINE: Of course.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Did you have any
- 12 questions of Mr. Meininger?
- MR. KLINE: No, sir.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Kline.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Thank you, sir.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Grossman.
- 17 MR. GROSSMAN: I appreciate you coming down here.
- 18 And once again, the same invitation I gave to Ms. Cook,
- 19 you're certainly welcome to stay here throughout the entire
- 20 proceedings. And in fact, if you or Ms. Cook wish to sit at
- 21 counsel table, you can do so, and question any of the
- 22 witnesses who testify. Would you like to do that or would
- 23 you like to sit in the audience? What's your preference?
- 24 MR. MEININGER: I believe I'll sit in the
- 25 audience.

- 1 MR. GROSSMAN: In the audience. Okay. Now, if
- 2 you have a question that you want to ask, let me know and we
- 3 can make sure that it gets asked.
- 4 MR. MEININGER: Thank you, sir.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you. All right.
- 6 Mr. Kline, your first witness.
- 7 MR. KLINE: Mr. Kaufman.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: State your full name, please, sir?
- 9 MR. KAUFMAN: My name is Clay Kaufman. I'm one of
- 10 the two heads of school of the Siena School at 9727 Georgia
- 11 Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Mr. Kaufman, would you raise your
- 13 right hand, please?
- 14 (Witness sworn.)
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed.
- 16 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 17 BY MR. KLINE:
- 18 Q Well, after that glowing introduction, I'm not
- 19 sure that I need to ask you very many questions. But first
- 20 of all, as a representative speaking for the school, do the
- 21 conditions that are recommended by the staff and the
- 22 Planning Board to the hearing examiner, are they acceptable
- 23 to the school, but for the ones that we are going to be
- 24 discussing with the hearing examiner today?
- 25 A Yes. The conditions as written are acceptable to

- 1 the school.
- 2 Q I understand that we don't have any opposition,
- 3 but it's probably good for the hearing examiner to know a
- 4 little bit about the background of the school. Just give us
- 5 an overview of how you got created, what's your mission?
- 6 A Sure. The founder of the school founded the
- 7 school in 2006. He has a business background and talked to
- 8 a number, he's been involved in the founding of other
- 9 schools, charter schools in the New York and Philadelphia
- 10 area. And when he moved down to D.C., talked to many
- 11 parents and educators, psychologists about what kind of need
- 12 for a school there was in this area. And there really is
- 13 not another school in Montgomery County or in D.C. that does
- 14 what we do, educating bright college bound students with
- 15 mild to moderate language-based learning differences.
- These are kids who are very bright. Dyslexia is
- 17 the most common one people have heard of. These are kids
- 18 who have reading and writing troubles. They are very
- 19 bright. They are very capable.
- But often in big public school classes where it's
- 21 mostly lecture driven and language driven, the students fall
- 22 behind because they only get about 60 percent of the words
- 23 that are coming at them. And then they do poorly in school,
- 24 and teachers start assuming that either they are not that
- 25 bright or they are just not working hard, whereas they are

- 1 actually working twice as hard as other kids.
- 2 So we created this school with 15 students in 2006
- 3 as a school specifically for this kind of student, with a
- 4 curriculum that was multi-sensory. The kids are very strong
- 5 in the arts, so we integrate art into the curriculum in
- 6 every subject. They're very good experiential learners, and
- 7 so we take field trips every month. We bring in guest
- 8 speakers, have hands on activities, small classes, about 10
- 9 students in a classroom, and very specific reading and
- 10 writing instruction, very specific multi-sensory approaches
- 11 that really help these kids learn.
- Most of that is just good teaching, and I think
- 13 all kids can benefit from that approach, but our students
- 14 specifically need that kind of approach. And so we've had a
- 15 pretty dramatic effect on the students that we have so far.
- 16 We have 78 students currently, and in grades four through
- 17 12. And coming from public and private schools where they
- 18 just haven't gotten the kind of specific interventions and
- 19 strategies that they need.
- We've had two classes of seniors graduate and go
- 21 off to college, and they are doing very, very well. So we
- 22 are pleased with the program so far. We would like the
- 23 opportunity to be able to serve more students. We're
- 24 currently in the Montgomery Hills Baptist Church, which has
- 25 been a wonderful partner for us.

- 1 Q And show, point out where it's located.
- 2 A Right on the corner of Forest Glen Road and
- 3 Georgia Avenue, right across the street from the metro.
- 4 It's been a very convenient location for us. We are in the
- 5 neighborhood that we are expecting to remain in, and, but
- 6 we're bursting at the seams.
- 7 We've taken a few more classrooms each year from
- 8 the church, and we're really at the maximum that they have
- 9 for us. So we really can't squeeze in anymore students then
- 10 we've got there at this point. And so, again, we'd like to
- 11 make this kind of education available to students who really
- 12 need it.
- We have a very strong financial aid program,
- 14 comparable with most of the schools in the city, despite our
- 15 young youth, in terms of the years we've been around.
- 16 Q You've been looking for a period of time for
- 17 relocation?
- 18 A We've been looking for quite some time, despite
- 19 the economic downturn, we've been growing substantially each
- 20 year. And so we've been, we looked at the Warner Mansion
- 21 over in Kensington, and we're actually very serious about
- 22 that, put together our team, architectural team, and so on,
- 23 and were in the running for that. And the County decided to
- 24 keep that for its own staff.
- But we began looking around all over the area.

1 One, we needed a gym. We needed playing fields. We wanted

- 2 to be close to the metro. And we wanted to be close to the
- 3 beltway. And then now we're actually here because Bob
- 4 Debernardis in the County Executive's office called us up
- 5 one day and said, I've been talking to Boys and Girls Club.
- 6 Their building is more or less empty during the day. This
- 7 might be a great partnership for you guys. And so he
- 8 steered us towards this building.
- 9 And it met all of our criteria, despite the fact
- 10 that our advisors who were helping us look for a location
- 11 said, you're never going to get all four, you'll be lucky if
- 12 you get two of the four things you're looking for.
- 13 A number of our kids and our teachers already walk
- 14 from the metro, and walk from the neighborhood, so it's just
- 15 incredibly fortuitous that this property came available at
- 16 the time.
- 17 Q Go back and explain the reference from
- 18 Mr. Debernardis and kind of the complementary nature of Boys
- 19 and Girls long term plans, and your long term plans.
- 20 A Sure. So Boys and Girls Club has been operating
- 21 there for quite a number of years, an after school program,
- 22 primarily, a small before school program. So more of their
- 23 students are coming from other neighborhoods, whereas they
- 24 used to come almost exclusively from this neighborhood. So
- 25 more of their kids come from Langley Park and downtown

1 Silver Spring, is our understanding, from what they've told

- 2 us. And so ultimately they're looking to be in the location
- 3 that might serve their students more closely, be a
- 4 neighborhood location.
- 5 So over the next eight years, however, we've
- 6 negotiated a contract where they can remain for up to that
- 7 long. And the programs are complementary. They run after
- 8 school programs, primarily, programs primarily during the
- 9 day. So it seemed to be a really great fit right from the
- 10 beginning to make the best use of that facility without
- 11 overloading it.
- 12 Q And your rate of growth is essentially
- 13 complementary with their reduction in scale of programs?
- 14 A Well, respect that we have three phases, as you
- 15 can see from the proposal. And in the first phase, we are
- 16 growing a little bit from where we are now, but the second
- 17 phase where we build over the pool will allow us to expand.
- 18 But ultimately, by the time we get to phase three, we expect
- 19 that that will be beyond the years when Boys and Girls Club
- 20 will be gone.
- But the programs are still very complementary,
- 22 because their students don't really arrive until our
- 23 students leave. And so even in phase two, we don't expect
- 24 that to be in overwhelming numbers. And the arrival and
- 25 departure, actually, which we will get into, works out very

- 1 well. It dovetails very nicely.
- 2 Q You used a reference to phase one. So you
- 3 remember the hearing examiner's earlier question. Let's get
- 4 into a little bit more detail.
- 5 A Right.
- 6 Q So tell us what phase one means physically and
- 7 operationally?
- 8 A Sure. So in phase one we will renovate the
- 9 existing building only, interior. We will re-stripe the
- 10 parking lot, but that is to remain as is. And we will, the
- 11 gym will stay, and then the downstairs, basically, is
- 12 several large open rooms. We will be converting that into
- 13 classrooms. And that will allow us to fit 90 to 100 kids in
- 14 there, depending on which grades they are in. But it will
- 15 be just an interior renovation.
- 16 The mechanicals and the electrical all do not meet
- 17 code, so that will all have to be upgraded. So it's
- 18 basically rehabbing that entire building, and moving our
- 19 entire school, grades four through 12, into that building.
- 20 Phase two will be determined by how our enrollment
- 21 in these are going, and what kind of applications that we
- 22 are seeing. And phase two would be taking the existing pool
- 23 that's next to the building, digging that out, building a
- lower level, and then matching the number of stories of the
- 25 existing building. And that would get us up to roughly 130-

- 1 140 students.
- 2 Those numbers have not been designed for us as a
- 3 cap, but depending on exactly what they look like and how
- 4 many classrooms we fit in, you know, that we would expect
- 5 that's roughly the number of students that would get in.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: When would you expect to begin
- 7 phase two?
- 8 THE WITNESS: It's unclear. We certainly couldn't
- 9 do it in the first two or three years because we're going to
- 10 be building back up our equity, and building our number of
- 11 students in the school. So we are trying to remain
- 12 flexible, given the economy, and given what other schools
- 13 are going through, we feel very fortunate that we continue
- 14 to grow, but it's unclear exactly what growth that we will
- 15 have.
- 16 BY MR. KLINE:
- 17 Q Going back to your comment before, the building
- 18 itself, the renovations you do in phase one, could probably
- 19 accommodate up to 100, I understand from the architect, give
- 20 or take, 110 kids, 11 per classroom, times 10 classrooms?
- 21 A Something like that.
- 22 Q Okay. So when we wrote down phase one, zero to
- 23 90, you didn't mean for that to be a hard cap at 90. You'd
- 24 like to be able to grow until you basically fill the
- 25 building up?

1 A Yes. Economically speaking, for a school, you

- 2 want to be able to fill the seats that are available. And
- 3 again, we have small classes and the classrooms are built of
- 4 the size that can accommodate that number of students fairly
- 5 easily. So, you know, we were not intending the 90 to be a
- 6 hard cap, but the building can comfortably hold, you know,
- 7 that capacity. We're not squeezing in 30 individual
- 8 classrooms.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Refresh my recollection, Mr. Kline.
- 10 Did the proposed conditions include that 90 as a hard cap?
- MR. KLINE: No, sir. No. No. Really, the only
- 12 way it came up was in the transmittal from the Planning
- 13 Board where the hearing examiner, I'm sorry, the chair read
- 14 that we were limiting ourselves to not more than 90, and
- 15 that the traffic study basically kind of did it that way,
- 16 too. Mr. Hedberg will say, no, that's not quite correct.
- 17 And I think what happened was, we misled or
- 18 Ms. Kamen didn't quite understand that we had this, what I
- 19 call 1A and 1B phases, and that there was going to be growth
- 20 beyond the 90. But Mr. Hedberg will testify to you that
- 21 when he did his traffic study, it's on a worst case basis
- 22 for us, 225, and a worst case basis maximum boys and girls
- 23 occupancy. And the transportation network still
- 24 accommodates everything. And the school collaborated with
- 25 Mr. Hedberg in preparing that.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: So that Ms. Carrier's suggestion in

- 2 the Planning Board letter that that needs to be looked at
- 3 again, you're saying it does not need to be looked at?
- 4 MR. KLINE: Well, no, I think it definitely needs
- 5 to be clarified. We hadn't done it adequately for
- 6 Ms. Kamen's benefit. And then I think the way she wrote up
- 7 the report, Ms. Carrier thought it was basically a hard cap,
- 8 and that wasn't our intention.
- 9 There probably is a practical cap at somewhere
- 10 around 110. You can't get more than that in there under
- 11 their programmatic requirements.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: But I think her concern addressed
- 13 the traffic aspect. And you're telling me that the traffic
- 14 study actually considers it at least up to that 110?
- MR. KLINE: It's why I'm calling Mr. Hedberg as my
- 16 second witness, because that seems to be the most important
- 17 case in the -- or subject in the case.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: He's going to be hard to live with
- 19 after this, if you do. He's so used to being the last
- 20 witness.
- MR. KLINE: So yes, that's what we want to
- 22 communicate. There was a little bit of floating, and we
- 23 were not as precise as we probably should have been so
- 24 Ms. Kamen could understand it.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And specifically, how

- 1 does it, how do you interface with the Boys Club, Boys and
- 2 Girls Club? Let's take it during phase one. How does that
- 3 work?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Sure. So for the Boys and Girls
- 5 Club, they have about 20 students in the morning for before
- 6 care. So those students arrive by about 7:30 a.m. by car.
- 7 They are then taken to school by just several buses that
- 8 arrive in the morning over Forest Glen Road to pick up the
- 9 kids, take them off to school. So that will happen, those
- 10 school buses come somewhere around 8:45-9:00 to get those
- 11 students off to school.
- Our students arrive between 8:00 and 8:30, and we
- 13 have carpooling, we have metro, and so on. So again, it
- 14 dovetails nicely. There are not, there are no cars from
- 15 Boys and Girls Club doing any kind of pickup in the morning
- 16 when we are just starting our school.
- MR. GROSSMAN: You say they will be picked up at
- 18 the Boys and Girls Club, the children are picked up at the
- 19 Boys and Girls -- do they live at the Boys and Girls Club?
- THE WITNESS: No. They are dropped off by their
- 21 parents at 7:30 for before care. And then the County school
- 22 buses pick them up.
- MR. GROSSMAN: I see. Okay.
- THE WITNESS: So it's just several school buses
- 25 that come pick them up and take them off to school from the

- 1 Boys and Girls Club in the morning.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: I see. And when does the before
- 3 care begin?
- 4 BY MR. KLINE:
- 5 Q How about giving us those times again?
- 6 A 7:30 a.m.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: That's when the before care begins?
- 8 I thought that's when they are picked up to be --
- 9 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. That's when the before
- 10 care begins.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 12 THE WITNESS: So the students, the children are
- 13 dropped off. About 20 students. It's a very small number
- 14 are dropped off at 7:30 a.m. by their families. And then
- 15 school buses take them to school, 8:40 to 9:00, in that
- 16 range.
- 17 BY MR. KLINE:
- 18 Q And again, reiterate when your students are
- 19 arriving?
- 20 A Our students arrive around 8:00 by metro, by,
- 21 they'll be coming by Ride-On bus, by car pool.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So isn't there an overlap there?
- 23 If the children from the Boys and Girls Club are not picked
- 24 up until 8:40, and your students are arriving at 8:00, isn't
- 25 there an overlap?

1 THE WITNESS: There is an overlap of students in

- 2 the building, but not of cars arriving at the same time. I
- 3 guess my point was that the Boys and Girls Club children are
- 4 dropped off by their parents by 7:30. Whereas our children
- 5 are not dropped off until between 8:00 and 8:30. So there
- 6 won't be, for traffic purposes, there's not an overlap of
- 7 cars coming in at the same time.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. I wonder if this is
- 9 going to work out quite that way, but okay.
- 10 MR. KLINE: Well, maybe that goes to the question
- 11 of the traffic management. Are you asking us --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- MR. KLINE: -- how would we be managing the flow
- 14 on the site?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right. I mean, I think that you
- 16 are going to have to specify in the traffic management plan
- 17 on how, the details of how this is going to work in order
- 18 to --
- 19 MR. KLINE: Well, Mr. Hedberg has -- the answer is
- 20 yes. Mr. Hedberg observed that on the existing, and has
- 21 been stressing that that's important. So talk about how you
- 22 would manage those ebbs and flows in traffic.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: You're going to need to have
- 24 monitors out there, obviously, making sure that you don't
- 25 have kids in the streets and --

1 THE WITNESS: We have a staff member outside the

- 2 school every morning. When Siena students arrive, they
- 3 arrive by car pool. They arrive by metro. They arrive,
- 4 some of them arrive by Ride-On bus at the new campus. We
- 5 have a staff member out in the driveway. We've set up the
- 6 cuing so there is plenty of room. They've got double the
- 7 length that we need to accommodate the students,
- 8 particularly in, even in phase one. And we have roughly 90
- 9 students or so. We have plenty of cuing length in order to
- 10 have cars coming in.
- 11 The Boys and Girls Club families are in a
- 12 different situation. They need child care early in the day.
- 13 So they need to get their children dropped off well before
- 14 our kids even get there.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right. No, I'm talking about the
- 16 overlap time before the bus comes to pick them up, when your
- 17 kids are arriving.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Right. Right.
- 19 MR. GROSSMAN: That seems to me to be an overlap.
- 20 THE WITNESS: So the Boys and Girls Club's
- 21 children will all be in their building, in their space that
- 22 they are using. They will have already arrived. And now
- 23 they will be, then from 8:00 to 8:30, our Siena students are
- 24 now driving in. Boys and Girls kids have already arrived.
- 25 They are in place.

- 1 Now you have the Siena School car pools arriving,
- 2 and we have a monitor, a staff person out there every single
- 3 morning. And the students, the parents cue up in their car
- 4 pools, drop off to the staff member who is there, and they
- 5 are lead into the building. By 8:30, 8:25, it's a case of
- 6 everybody is there.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: And so where do the, now you have a
- 8 double load of students because the 8:40 bus has not yet
- 9 come to pick up the children from the Boys and Girls Club.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Well, there's only 20 students in
- 11 the Boys and Girls Club morning program.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. So they are occupying the
- 13 same space as you're occupying?
- 14 THE WITNESS: No, they have another room that they
- 15 are, a room in the building that is designated for them.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Separate from the Siena classrooms.
- 18 The Siena School will occupy the lower level, and the gym is
- 19 on the upper level, and the Boys and Girls Club have office
- 20 space that we've given them, and then a big community room
- 21 where their students will be in the morning.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. So the rest of the time
- 23 during the day, do they --
- THE WITNESS: Then their students are gone. They
- 25 have some staff there. We have given them space where their

1 staff can be. And then in the afternoon, what happens is

- 2 that some of the, a few of the high schools, the high
- 3 schools get out earlier, as you know --
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 5 THE WITNESS: -- in public schools. Some of the
- 6 high school students arrive to the Boys and Girls Club
- 7 between 3:00 and 3:45. Then the elementary students that
- 8 arrive at Boys and Girls Club come after that, between 3:45
- 9 and 4:00. Our students will be, all leave at 3:30, except
- 10 for a handful of kids paying on the basketball team, or the
- 11 soccer team, something like that. But the bulk of our, our
- 12 pickup, basically, is between 3:20 and 3:30. So then our
- 13 students will be gone before most of the -- only a handful
- 14 of the Boys and Girls Club kids have arrived.
- So it actually dovetails very, very nicely. When
- 16 the bulk of the Boys and Girls Clubs arrive by bus, which
- 17 drops them off on Forest Glen Road at the Boys and Girls
- 18 Club, just by school bus, our students are basically gone.
- 19 MR. GROSSMAN: I mean, I'm still, I understand the
- 20 timing as you are explaining it. I wonder if this friction
- 21 in the system that if somebody is delays with traffic or
- 22 whatever, isn't there going to be some kind of overlapping
- 23 as a result of that?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Well, we, even with a handful --
- 25 MR. KLINE: Hold on. Mr. Grossman, I think I

1 wanted you to have this conversation along with some graphic

- 2 exhibits --
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 4 MR. KLINE: -- to kind of show how we're
- 5 controlling also. And I transmitted this to the Board I
- 6 thought in an October transmission, but I don't see it on
- 7 the exhibit list. And I was looking for my cover letter
- 8 right now.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So this --
- 10 THE WITNESS: Basically we have, we've built in --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Hold on. Let me identify what it
- 12 is, since you've handed it to me.
- MR. KLINE: Yes. So what I'd like to do is ask
- 14 that you make as an exhibit in the case phase one and phase
- 15 two parking and cuing plan.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So Exhibit 23 is phase one and
- 17 phase two, well, I guess phase one is page one of this?
- 18 (Exhibit Nos. 23A and 23B were
- marked for identification.)
- MR. KLINE: Yes.
- 21 THE WITNESS: That's correct.
- MR. GROSSMAN: And then phase two is, page two?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Page two and three is phase two.
- MR. GROSSMAN: I only see two pages here. Are
- 25 there three pages?

1 THE WITNESS: No, there's two pages. Phase two

- 2 and three are on the same page.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 4 THE WITNESS: It's renovating the parking lot for
- 5 phase two as the ultimate renovation.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So we'll say Exhibit
- 7 23A is phase one parking and cuing plan. And 23B is a phase
- 8 two and three parking and cuing plan. All right.
- 9 MR. KLINE: And I thought, Mr. Grossman, that
- 10 having this exhibit where you could actually see kind of how
- 11 things are supposed to be laid out and organized might also
- 12 lend some credence to just the ebb and flow issues, as I
- 13 called it.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes. I suspect that if, in fact,
- 15 everything goes as planned, that the timing will work out.
- 16 But you know, the best laid plans of mice and men aft gang
- 17 agley, as they say. And I'm not so sure that when you do
- 18 have traffic issues are whatever, and the buses are late or
- 19 early or whatever, that you are not going to have conflict.
- THE WITNESS: Well, we've built in, we've built
- 21 in significant, I mean, there is plenty of room. We believe
- 22 there's plenty of room, so even if there were some overlap.
- 23 I think the biggest concern initially for us was, if there
- 24 would be a time when Boys and Girls families would be
- 25 driving into the driveway at the same time as Siena

- 1 families, because that's when the possible chaos happens.
- 2 But the fact is, the times of our Siena schools
- 3 arrival and departure are only times when the school buses
- 4 are there, not, there's no, there isn't drop off by parents
- 5 in the afternoon. It's by school bus.
- And to my understanding, in most cases the buses
- 7 are dropping of, as they do typically, you know, at the end
- 8 of the street. The kids hop off and walk into Boys and
- 9 Girls Club. So there isn't, we don't anticipate, and the
- 10 way the Boys and Girls operates right now is there are not
- 11 parents driving into the driveway in the afternoon when we
- 12 are trying to send our kids home. It's just the bussing
- 13 dropping off from school.
- 14 So we don't ever anticipate that there would be a
- 15 time, other than maybe with one or two parents, for some
- 16 reason, from Boys and Girls Club, bringing their kids to the
- 17 building, because their kids are coming directly from
- 18 school.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, I hope you're right. I hope
- 20 it all works out. But you have --
- 21 THE WITNESS: We do feel confident. I mean, the
- 22 biggest, the biggest fear would be that if, you know, you
- 23 had parents from both communities dropping off at the same
- 24 time. But that's just not the design of that program. And
- 25 we've built in, and especially in phase two, the -- we are

1 designing the parking lot for 225 students, but we're not

- 2 going to be at 225 students in phase two.
- 3 So while the Boys and Girls Club is still there,
- 4 we've got a double cue. And so we've been convinced by
- 5 Mr. Hedberg and from our research, that there is plenty of
- 6 room even for, as you say, obviously there are going to be
- 7 some times and some changes in daily procedure. But we also
- 8 have staff monitors every afternoon out in the parking lot,
- 9 making sure that things go smoothly.
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: You indicate one staff person. Is
- 11 that actually one staff person out there?
- 12 THE WITNESS: In the mornings currently, and I say
- 13 currently in the mornings we have one person. In the
- 14 afternoon we have several staff people. And sometimes, for
- 15 example the first day of school, we have more staff people
- 16 out there just to make sure.
- We have a very similar cue currently at the church
- 18 parking lot. There's a one lane entrance, actually, instead
- 19 of a two lane entrance here, and there is exactly the same
- 20 pattern. So our families already are doing exactly this
- 21 pattern of drop off. That won't change, really, at all, in
- 22 terms of the new building.
- 23 And so we are confident that because it's not a
- 24 change in pattern, our families are used to the way that the
- 25 pickup and drop off works. And it will have much more space

- 1 in this parking lot than we currently have at the church.
- 2 We're confident that we do have plenty of room to make this
- 3 work smoothly.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes. I mean, usually that's the
- 5 question, usually, that is, is there sufficient cuing room,
- 6 et cetera, so that it will not back up into the roadway and
- 7 you won't interfere with the community, because the
- 8 fundamental thing we look at in a zoning type of application
- 9 is how you will be compatible with the community.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Exactly.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: And that includes traffic and
- 12 parking.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Sure.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: Here, there is this added overlay
- 15 that is of some concern, and that is whether or not you are
- 16 going to have a safe drop off/pick up scenario given then
- 17 overlap potential that I see. So I don't usually have to
- 18 get into that, because I have never seen a situation like
- 19 this before.
- THE WITNESS: Sure. No, this is a little bit of
- 21 an unusual situation. I am not the traffic expert, and
- 22 certainly --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 24 THE WITNESS: -- Mr. Hedberg will be testifying
- 25 that we have plenty of cuing length. We feel very confident

1 that there is more than enough cuing length to accommodate

- 2 what we need in terms of our families coming.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 4 BY MR. KLINE:
- 5 Q Just to summarize then, you've been told by your
- 6 professional consultants, the designers of the cues and the
- 7 traffic engineer, that we should be able to accommodate all
- 8 the cars on site so there would be no cars backing out on
- 9 Forest Glen Road.
- 10 A That is my full understanding.
- 11 Q And that this circulation pattern will be safe,
- 12 adequate and efficient, notwithstanding the coming and
- 13 goings of different groups.
- 14 A Absolutely. And that is our first concern, to
- 15 make sure our students are safe. So we wouldn't approve a
- 16 plan that didn't, or submit a plan that didn't keep our
- 17 students safe. We feel that this is a safe plan, and one
- 18 that has been in use in very similar, almost exactly the
- 19 same pattern in the entire history of the school.
- 20 Q In fact, don't I remember when we were doing phase
- 21 two there were a lot of concerns about how you were going to
- 22 manage the drop offs and everything to get the kids safely
- 23 into the building?
- 24 A Yes. I mean, we had long discussions about that,
- 25 and that's why we have the double cuing line, which is what

- 1 we do currently at the school. So this has been tested.
- 2 This is not a new plan for us. This is exactly the same
- 3 procedure that we use currently at the school.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 5 BY MR. KLINE:
- 6 Q From a timing point of view, go back and just
- 7 confirm that I got it right. You'd like to be in the
- 8 building, I said first of September, but you intend
- 9 occupancy for when?
- 10 A Sure. We would like to start the school year.
- 11 Obviously, it's much easier for families if you start the
- 12 school year in the new building. And our renovation is
- 13 planned assuming that this special exception process takes
- 14 the maximum amount of time that it could take, can get us to
- 15 finish in August, towards the end of August.
- 16 So in our situation, we want to make sure that the
- 17 process if followed carefully and fairly, but we are under a
- 18 tight schedule, mostly because we were delayed by the
- 19 discovery that the parking lot did not belong to Boys and
- 20 Girls Club, which Park and Planning didn't even realize.
- 21 They discovered it when we brought it up.
- 22 So that was a, caused a significant delay. And
- 23 that was really what we were waiting for in order to submit
- 24 the special exception application. You know, we are
- 25 prepared to move in whenever we need to, obviously. We

- 1 would love to be able to move in at the end of August, so
- 2 that our kids can start the school year and restart safely
- 3 and right from the beginning.
- 4 So anything that we can do to help support this
- 5 process to keep it moving, you know, we're happy to do,
- 6 because it will be beneficial to us to be able to stick to
- 7 that. We know that the renovation, we have like 10 weeks of
- 8 renovation, and we know that that can overrun every once in
- 9 a while. So we're factoring in that. Even a week or two
- 10 can be helpful for us.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, the primary thing that you'll
- 12 have to do is get in the transportation management plan, and
- 13 the revised statement of operations in more detail, as
- 14 quickly as possible after this hearing.
- THE WITNESS: We'll get that immediately.
- 16 MR. KLINE: You'll have them both on Monday.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, you'll have to consult also
- 18 with the community.
- MR. KLINE: Oh yes, sure. Sure. That's what
- 20 weekends are for.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- BY MR. KLINE:
- 23 Q We've kind of focused on, you know, kind of the
- 24 start-up operation. Basically, take us into the later
- 25 phases, and one, the impact of Boys and Girls later in time,

1 and two, is there anything about phase two or phase three

- 2 that changes any of what you are talking about?
- 3 A Well, one of the most important things about the
- 4 phasing is that we have been very careful and try to be very
- 5 sensitive to this community to keep the footprint of the
- 6 building the same. And that's why we decided to, that we
- 7 would fit the phase two construction over the pool, the
- 8 existing pool, which is not currently in operation. And so
- 9 that keeps the footprint of the building the same.
- 10 Phase three is building a final set of classrooms
- 11 on the roof next to where the gym is that still maintains
- 12 the building height, meets the building height, and would
- 13 allow us to get up to the maximum number of students.
- So we are, in phase two we will do all the parking
- 15 improvements, parking lot improvements that we do with Park
- 16 and Planning that will suit 225 students. So in phase two
- 17 we will have significant improvements to that parking lot.
- 18 Q My next question will not go in your marketing
- 19 brochure, but realistically, when are we getting closer to
- 20 doing phase three or phase two even?
- 21 A It's more of a quess, because sometimes schools
- 22 get a bump when they move to a new building, and we might
- 23 get a significant increase next year, you know, five or 10
- 24 students. We might not. It's hard to tell. But I would
- 25 say that it would be hard to do phase two sooner than three

1 or four years, and probably another few years after that for

- 2 phase three.
- Again, it's pretty hard to predict with admission
- 4 cycles at the moment, and looking at how schools are doing.
- 5 We know there is a need for our school, and we have grown
- 6 significantly over the last six years, but it's hard to
- 7 predict exactly what enrollment patterns will be.
- 8 Q Taking into just sort of away from the traffic
- 9 related issues, just the general operational issues, tell us
- 10 about your school calendar? When are you open?
- 11 A Sure. We begin after labor day. We run through
- 12 mid-June with our regular program. The school hours are
- 13 8:30 to 3:30 with an aftercare, a small aftercare program.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: I'm sorry, what are your hours?
- THE WITNESS: 8:30 to 3:30 for most students. And
- 16 then we have a small aftercare program. We currently have
- 17 about 10 or 12 students in the aftercare program.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Are you satisfied with the hours as
- 19 they were modified by the Planning Board?
- 20 THE WITNESS: Yes. And then in the summer --
- 21 BY MR. KLINE:
- 22 Q Before you leave --
- 23 A Yes.
- 25 building after 6 o=clock at night --

- 1 A Right.
- 2 Q -- but for special events?
- 3 A We have parent-teacher meetings, parent
- 4 association meetings, and then as you were referring to, the
- 5 special events. We have the same things that all schools
- 6 have. We have a couple of big ones, back-to-school night
- 7 and the science fair, and the arts evening that involve most
- 8 families.
- 9 And then we have parent association meetings that
- 10 we wish involved more families, but there are a handful of
- 11 families that come to those. So we follow what a typical
- 12 private school follows in terms of that.
- We've been limited in our, we have a limited
- 14 summer program. We have an academic program in the
- 15 mornings, and then we have an arts program that we also
- 16 offer. It's been pretty small so far, because of our
- 17 location in the church.
- 18 And again, we don't have specific plans for
- 19 exactly how large that will grow, how quickly, but we would
- 20 like to continue to offer it. And we put in our proposal to
- 21 continue to offer a summer program that would involve arts
- 22 and academics, especially for students who aren't at Siena
- 23 but need that sort of intervention in their reading and
- 24 writing and math. So they come from other schools and take
- 25 part in our summer program.

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1 MR. GROSSMAN: Now, the Planning Board recommended
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- 2 an additional condition although they didn't specify a
- 3 number. They said, limits on students and staff in phase
- 4 one until the Boys and Girls Club vacates. What would be
- 5 the appropriate limits on students and staff in phase one?
- THE WITNESS: Well, we believe that with the
- 7 current configuration of the building, as Mr. Kline had
- 8 referenced before, that depending on how many students you
- 9 have in a particular grade, that we could comfortably fit
- 10 100-110 students in our space. That's outside of the Boys
- 11 and Girls space, and just the Siena School part of the
- 12 space, comfortably.
- 13 It comes down to sometimes if you have a fifth
- 14 grade class that's full of 10 students, or if you have a
- 15 fifth grade class that only has seven students, you know,
- 16 there is room without, you know, if you are at full
- 17 enrollment, that you can get up to that 100 to 110 number
- 18 comfortably in our existing space as set aside from the Boys
- 19 and Girls Club.
- 20 MR. GROSSMAN: But I'm also talking in conjunction
- 21 with, we've discussed the traffic issues as well. In
- 22 conjunction with not only the internal space, but also
- 23 parking and traffic issues, what would be the appropriate
- 24 limit to set on the number of students in phase one, and the
- 25 number of staff in phase one?

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1 THE WITNESS: I think 110 students would be
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- 2 comfortable in terms of the cuing lanes we have, and in
- 3 terms of the staff that would be needed.
- 4 MR. KLINE: And let me take you this way --
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: And how many staff? There has to
- 6 be a --
- 7 MR. KLINE: Yes. Can I come back to that --
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes.
- 9 MR. KLINE: -- if that's okay.
- 10 BY MR. KLINE:
- 11 Q My understanding is, you basically,
- 12 programmatically, you like to have approximately 11, 10 to
- 13 12 --
- 14 A 10 or 11 students per class. Right.
- Okay. And you will have the availability for 10
- 16 classrooms?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q So that's how you get to 110?
- 19 A Right.
- 20 Q And then Mr. Grossman's next question is, and how
- 21 many people do you have to have to support that?
- 22 A Right. So if we have, when you move from a number
- 23 like, we're talking about 90 to 110, we're really talking
- 24 about whether you can fill every seat. And so the number of
- 25 staff wouldn't be much more than what we're anticipating

- 1 for phase one.
- 2 Phase one really is phase one. It's the number of
- 3 classrooms we have. We can't have more teachers than we
- 4 have classrooms.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- THE WITNESS: And so on, and so we, I don't
- 7 anticipate that there would be a need for a significant
- 8 increase in staff members, if you're talking about 90 or 95
- 9 or 100 students.
- 10 BY MR. KLINE:
- 11 Q So refresh his memory as to how many staff you
- 12 thought you were going to have with 90, if you even remember
- 13 that?
- 14 A I think we said 20. I think phase one is 20
- 15 teachers, is that right?
- MR. GROSSMAN: It's not just teachers, it's all --
- 17 THE WITNESS: Staff, I'm sorry.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: What we're concerned with, I mean,
- 19 there are going to be other agencies, State agencies that
- 20 are going to deal with, undoubtedly, the questions of
- 21 whether you have enough teachers per students --
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: -- and all of that. But we're
- 24 concerned with the impact of traffic and parking on the
- 25 community.

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1 THE WITNESS: We don't anticipate needing more
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- 2 than -- the number of staff that we have for phase one
- 3 should be sufficient for the space that we have for 110
- 4 students.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: And what is that? What's that
- 6 number?
- 7 THE WITNESS: I believe that number is 20.
- 8 MR. KLINE: That's correct.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I just wanted to make sure that I
- 10 don't have --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Because these are going to
- 12 be the limits that will be imposed by a condition in the
- 13 special exception.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Right.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And in phase two?
- 16 THE WITNESS: So in phase two --
- MR. KLINE: Well, in phase two, Mr. Grossman, let
- 18 me just kind of explain why I have a problem with this, in
- 19 the sense that this is all traffic related. And Mr. Hedberg
- 20 is going to tell you, there is no traffic problem. So, I
- 21 mean, if they could get more than 110 in, it still shouldn't
- 22 have an impact at all on the property.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, I'm not suggesting that it
- 24 would have an impact. What I'm asking is for a number,
- 25 because --

1 MR. KLINE: But because you only have a number

- 2 because you have a potential adverse impact.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 4 MR. KLINE: We're trying to demonstrate that there
- 5 would be no potential adverse impact.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, we always, we always limit
- 7 the number, the total number of students and the total
- 8 number of faculty, because ultimately that's our gauge for
- 9 the impact.
- And so if you're telling me that you don't need a
- 11 separate limit in phase two, but you are going to have a
- 12 limit in phase three, because your overall limit is 225
- 13 students and 55 employees. I'm just trying to get a gauge
- 14 of what the limit would be during phase two.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Well, there should be no limit in
- 16 phase two, because in phase two the parking lot and the
- 17 transportation is built for 225.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. So you're telling me that
- 19 the limits for phase two would also be the 225 and 55?
- THE WITNESS: Exactly. Yes.
- 21 MR. KLINE: And so that's what I was trying to
- 22 say. Yes.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, I think that one reason that
- 24 Ms. Carrier suggested there be a limit is because she
- 25 anticipated that -- or she indicated phase one, but she also

- 1 talked about it until the Boys and Girls Club vacates the
- 2 premises. But from what I understand, the Boys and Girls
- 3 Club would still be there during phase two. And so --
- 4 MR. KLINE: Potentially.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: And so don't we still have an
- 6 issue, a coordination issue, a coordination issue during
- 7 that period of time that must be dealt with in terms of the
- 8 number of staff, students and staff that could be
- 9 accommodated on the premises from Siena School?
- 10 THE WITNESS: I don't believe so.
- MR. KLINE: Well, you have the issue, but I think
- 12 he's going to say, yes, he can handle it.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, let's hear what he has to
- 14 say.
- MR. KLINE: Yes. Right.
- 16 THE WITNESS: What I would say, again, I'm not a
- 17 traffic expert, but since in phase two the entire parking
- 18 lot is rebuilt and designed for 225 students, our maximum
- 19 capacity, and we won't be at that number for phase two,
- 20 because we won't have built the extra classrooms, there is
- 21 plenty -- there is parking that's plenty, and cuing that is
- 22 built for many more students than we will actually have,
- 23 because in phase two we are only expecting 130-140 students.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Kline, additional
- 25 questions of this witness?

- 1 BY MR. KLINE:
- 2 Only this, and let me kind of phrase it this way,
- 3 since I've been prompted by Mr. Heyer, who spoke so nicely
- 4 as the founder of the school before. Were Boys and Girls
- 5 Club to leave earlier than the eight years that they are
- 6 contractually allowed to stay for, that would allow you to
- 7 expand sooner, and you would not have the conflict we're
- 8 talking about right now?
- 9 A That's right.
- 10 MR. KLINE: So what I'm thinking of, Mr. Grossman,
- 11 is, I'm comfortable partly because of the schedule issue
- 12 with 110 as the cap at phase one. But I don't think it's
- 13 quite as important in phase two, particularly if Boys and
- 14 Girls Club departed, if there was something that said you
- 15 shouldn't -- well, I'm trying to allow us to come back to
- 16 the Board of Appeals for an administrative modification to
- 17 increase the enrollment because Boys and Girls Club has left
- 18 prematurely, and that we basically have capacity available,
- 19 and the points of friction are eliminated when Boys and
- 20 Girls leaves.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So you're suggesting coming back to
- 22 the Board of Appeals for an administrative modification
- 23 during the phase one period? I mean, because during the
- 24 phase two period, if I understood what Mr. Kaufman is
- 25 saying, the only, there is no different in the limit that

- 1 should be imposed on students and staff.
- THE WITNESS: Yes. There should be no issue in
- 3 phase two.
- 4 MR. KLINE: Yes. You're right. Because that's
- 5 what I was saying to Mr. Heyer, is that phase two doesn't
- 6 seem to be --
- 7 THE WITNESS: No.
- 8 MR. KLINE: We're arguing that if we get all the
- 9 way to, get to 225 we're okay at phase two. So phase one, I
- 10 guess, is the only place we really have the --
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes. So we're comfortable with
- 12 setting a reasonable limit in phase one, of course.
- 13 BY MR. KLINE:
- 14 Q Let me, before you -- I'd like to go back to the
- 15 testimony, some of the testimony we heard from some of the
- 16 neighbors, the concerns about the parking. And we were
- 17 talking about the special events. You can see there, you do
- 18 not have adequate parking on the property to accommodate
- 19 your special events.
- 20 A Right. We have, when we talked to the
- 21 neighborhood associations, our assurance came from actually
- 22 our deal with Park and Planning. We have an agreement with
- 23 them in writing that we will be allowed to use the Margaret
- 24 Schweinhaut Center for auxiliary parking for our big events.
- 25 So it's not just a vague promise from us, but

- 1 actually an agreement we have with Park and Planning,
- 2 because having been involved in schools for over 25 years, I
- 3 know that parking in the neighborhood is the number one, is
- 4 the number one concern.
- 5 So for any events that exceed our capacity, the
- 6 few events of the year where the whole school is there,
- 7 back-to-school night and so on, we already have an agreement
- 8 with Park and Planning to use that. And it's literally a
- 9 block away from our school.
- 10 Very few schools in the County have 150 space
- 11 auxiliary parking lot within a block of their school. Sc
- 12 that gives us, makes us feel very secure.
- MR. GROSSMAN: That is a luxury.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, I actually thought the
- 16 e-mail that I am providing you from Mr. Hertz of the Parks
- 17 Department to Mr. Kaufman dated December 21, I thought it
- 18 was an attachment to the staff report. But maybe it hadn't
- 19 been worked out by the time the staff report had been
- 20 published. But this is basically, quote, the agreement that
- 21 has been reached that was transmitted to Ms. Kamen.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So this is Exhibit 24.
- 23 And this is e-mail of 12/9/11 from Daniel Hertz of
- 24 Montgomery County Parks to Mr. Kaufman confirming agreement
- 25 to use, it says Argyle Park as well. Is that correct?

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1 (Exhibit No. 24 was
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- 2 marked for identification.)
- THE WITNESS: Argyle Park, it has a small parking
- 4 that is attached to the Margaret Schweinhaut Center parking.
- 5 So there is no clear definitive line between the two, but
- 6 there are about 150 parking spaces that are --
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 8 THE WITNESS: -- adjacent to each other.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Parking at Argyle Park and
- 10 Schweinhaut Senior Center for overflow parking. Okay.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Argyle Park, as you can see from the
- 12 pictures, is simply just adjacent to the Siena School
- 13 property, and the parking lot is just on the other side of
- 14 the park. It's a big soccer field.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, I know you reduce things
- 17 assiduously --
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 19 MR. KLINE: -- so the second paragraph basically
- 20 talks about the process by which we make the arrangements.
- 21 They select a night. They call into Parks. They say, we
- 22 don't have any events that conflict. Go ahead and use it,
- 23 or we do have a conflict, in which case we have to
- 24 reschedule.
- What I want to bring your attention to was, when

1 this letter was written, they were responding to an initial

- 2 suggestion by Ms. Kamen that we would not have more than
- 3 four or five events per year. And that I think actually was
- 4 in our original statement of operations.
- 5 But they concluded that, hey, you know, there are
- 6 some things we may be adding. So the staff report talks
- 7 about, I think, eight or nine now. That has been discussed
- 8 with the Parks Department and they are not locked into the
- 9 four or five that are mentioned in the, about the fifth line
- 10 down in the first paragraph of that letter.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- MR. KLINE: So it's simply a matter of, do we have
- 13 a conflict, but we can't exceed what's in the staff report.
- 14 We understand that.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Once again, that will all be
- 16 part of the transportation management plan.
- 17 MR. KLINE: Exactly. Yes, sir. Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 19 MR. KLINE: Condition number eight says, up to
- 20 eight large scale events. And that's acceptable to the
- 21 applicant and has been discussed with Parks Department. And
- 22 they're okay with that as well.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: And all I'm saying is, that should
- 24 be in your statement of operations, and your transportation
- 25 management plan. That should be specified.

- 1 BY MR. KLINE:
- 2 Q There was mention about a shuttle van. We haven't
- 3 talked about that before. Do you plan to continue operating
- 4 that?
- 5 A We currently have one bus, a 14-passenger van, and
- 6 the neighbors had asked whether, especially if we have some
- 7 older grandparents and things like that, whether we would be
- 8 willing to shuttle people from the Argyle Park parking lot
- 9 to the campus, which we are certainly amenable to. It is
- 10 only about a one block walk, but obviously we want to take
- 11 care of our families, so that bus would certainly be
- 12 available for those purposes.
- 13 Q And in the transportation management plan that
- 14 we're going to be talking about, you're prepared to do the
- 15 steps necessary to try and maintain and enhance the amount
- 16 of shared vehicle use, pedestrian walking --
- 17 A Of course.
- 18 Q -- to encourage kids. Do you think you'll be able
- 19 to retain the same number of kids coming by the subway
- 20 system now?
- 21 A Yes, we do. It's still only three-quarters of a
- 22 mile from the metro stop. In the morning, when they are
- 23 getting to school, it's downhill, and in the afternoons it's
- 24 uphill. But kids are eager to get home, so the kids love
- 25 the independence of taking the metro. So many of our high

1 school students take the metro. So we expect that to

- 2 continue without any trouble.
- 3 Q There is a provision in the ordinance that says
- 4 you can't have more than 87, a population of 87, a density
- 5 of 87 students per acre. And when you do the math of 225
- 6 into the corrected number of acreage you'd have, you're only
- 7 at 83.3. But a lot of our questions today have talked about
- 8 how to treat the boys and girls.
- 9 So in a worst case scenario, I guess you could
- 10 possibly have more than 87 children on the property at a
- 11 given time. From your point of view in terms of the
- 12 standards that I've shown you in the ordinance for that, do
- 13 you see where there's a problem? Does having the larger
- 14 number of over 87 have an adverse impact on the surrounding
- 15 neighborhood?
- 16 A No, we feel like there is plenty of room. Part of
- 17 the issue for us is, because we only have a small number of
- 18 students in a classroom, compared to the number you
- 19 typically would get into a classroom, you know, 30 students,
- 20 we have space in the building that's suitable for the
- 21 students. There's plenty of room for them.
- 22 Plus the other thing that is a benefit to us is
- 23 that as you know, as you can see from this, on the west side
- 24 where -- on the south side where you have the capital
- 25 beltway, and we have Argyle Park on the east side, and we

- 1 have Sligo, it's basically woods and then Sligo Creek
- 2 Parkway on the west side. And then across Forest Glen Road
- 3 there is a berm. Forest Glen Road and then there is a berm
- 4 and then the neighborhood.
- 5 So we feel that given the location and the fact
- 6 that we have no direct neighbors to the property, and that
- 7 the neighbors who are across the street are across a berm
- 8 before you get to the two houses that are the only two
- 9 houses that are visible from the property, we feel that this
- 10 won't have an adverse effect on the neighborhood.
- MR. GROSSMAN: My question would be, however, if
- 12 that density is variable, if there is allowed any variation
- 13 from that maximum density in the zoning ordinance. I don't
- 14 recall if that's specifically permitted. Do you recall --
- MR. KLINE: I'm sorry, Mr. Grossman.
- 16 MR. GROSSMAN: -- whether or not that limit on
- 17 density, on student density is --
- 18 MR. KLINE: It basically just says you could do
- 19 it, but --
- 20 MR. GROSSMAN: -- is there any allowable variation
- 21 from that.
- MR. KLINE: Oh yes. I'm sorry.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: Let's see, 85 here, we're talking
- 24 about --
- MR. KLINE: Is permitted. Yes.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: Only if the Board finds that the

- 2 program of instruction, special characteristics of the
- 3 students, or other circumstances justify reduced space. In
- 4 fact, the requirements, the additional density will not
- 5 adversely affect adjacent properties, and additional traffic
- 6 generated by the additional density will not adversely
- 7 affect the surrounding streets.
- 8 MR. KLINE: And I was essentially asking
- 9 Mr. Kaufman here to address one and two --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 11 MR. KLINE: -- or (i) and (ii) and have
- 12 Mr. Hedberg address (iii).
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. And if I
- 14 understand you correctly, the only time that it would
- 15 potentially exceed that density is when there's an overlap
- 16 with the Boys and Girls Club?
- 17 THE WITNESS: As we're leaving and they're
- 18 arriving, exactly.
- 19 MR. KLINE: And since you, I did the math, since
- 20 you have to get up to 234 to get to 87, at their growth, and
- 21 the Boys and Girls sort of -- I'm not sure you'd ever get to
- 22 that number at all.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Outdoor play.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Well, as you can see, there is a
- 25 significant playing field on the property.

- 1 MR. KLINE: Yes. Let me do this. We have,
- 2 basically, an exhibit in the record, Mr. Grossman, which, as
- 3 soon as I find my exhibit list here, I'll tell you which one
- 4 I was referring to. The phase two site plan is Exhibit 4.
- 5 I quess it's 4C.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: I see, it says --
- 7 MR. KLINE: I'm sorry, 4H. 4H.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: 4H is proposed phase two site plan.
- 9 Yes.
- 10 THE WITNESS: So there is an existing playground
- 11 with play equipment on the site.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 13 THE WITNESS: And then there is a significant
- 14 playing field that we will own, own two-thirds of it, and
- 15 lease part of it from Park and Planning. So there's a
- 16 significant amount of space.
- And then the benefit of that space is, again, is
- 18 it is nestled in between our building, the beltway, the
- 19 trees that are between there and Sligo Creek Parkway, and
- 20 then a row of trees along Forest Glen Road. So it really is
- 21 nestled in.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So that's the closest residence to
- 23 the outdoor play area?
- 24 THE WITNESS: The play area is actually on the
- 25 back of the property, behind the building.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: Wherever you might have children

- 2 outdoors making noise.
- THE WITNESS: So you would have to be across the
- 4 street and across the berm. So there's two houses that are
- 5 located across Forest Glen Road, and then across the berm.
- 6 And then there is another road, and there are the houses.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Can you point to that?
- 8 MR. KLINE: Well, going to Exhibit number 10, the
- 9 zoning vicinity map, the building itself is hard line red in
- 10 the center of the drawing.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 12 MR. KLINE: The houses fronting on the north side
- 13 of Forest Glen Road.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- MR. KLINE: So just the depth of the road and the
- 16 depth of the building would give you at least 300 feet of
- 17 distance to the area behind the school.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. So --
- 19 MR. KLINE: There is open field on the left side,
- 20 which is, again, probably about 150 feet across from the
- 21 residences directly on the north side of Forest Glen Road.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So we're talking about the closest
- 23 ones would be what are labeled one and two in block one
- 24 there?
- MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: Is that correct, just to the north

- 2 of Forest Glen? And those would be the closest ones to an
- 3 outdoor play area?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 5 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And what distance did
- 7 you say those homes are from that outdoor play area?
- 8 MR. KLINE: The lot lines give you, well, the
- 9 width of the street is 100 feet. And then, however over
- 10 here, so it's probably in the order of 150 feet from the
- 11 front steps of the house to any play areas on the west side
- 12 of the property.
- MR. GROSSMAN: And what's the earliest time of day
- 14 and latest time of day that those play areas would be used?
- THE WITNESS: We don't start before 8:30, so it
- 16 wouldn't certainly be in the -- it would be before then, and
- 17 most of it is during the day during lunch and recess, and
- 18 potentially after school, you know, for 3:30.
- 19 BY MR. KLINE:
- 20 Q Would you be using the fields on the west side for
- 21 recess activities? I was thinking those are more organized
- 22 sporting events.
- 23 A Well, but for the kids who would go outside at
- 24 lunchtime or for recess, yes. Again, because it's pretty
- 25 far from --

- 1 Q Okay.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: Do you play amplified music or
- 3 noise outside?
- 4 THE WITNESS: No.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: So you wouldn't mind a restriction
- 6 that said, no amplified noise outdoors?
- 7 THE WITNESS: I guess I would want to be able to
- 8 have a more specific definition of exactly what that meant.
- 9 For example, if a student had a radio walking around and, or
- 10 are you talking about big speakers blasting a party?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, I would be talking about any,
- 12 I mean, I understand a student might have a radio, and I'm
- 13 talking about the school having any type of loudspeaker
- 14 equipment, whether it's a big speaker or a small speaker, or
- 15 playing music outdoors, anything that might disturb the
- 16 community. That's all I mean. That's the rationale.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Sure. I mean, within reason, I
- 18 think if it was reasonable. I mean I would be a little
- 19 hesitant to say, again, a neighbor could object and say that
- 20 a student with a radio on, you're violating your zoning. I
- 21 mean, obviously, we don't want to disrupt the neighborhood,
- 22 and we'll work closely with them. And we'll continue to
- 23 meet with them to make sure that what we're doing is, you
- 24 know, is reasonable.
- BY MR. KLINE:

1 Q Let me suggest this. We don't have a football

- 2 team, so we're not announcing the football games and who
- 3 tackled such and such, correct?
- 4 A Right.
- Okay. So do you want to have a system where you
- 6 can say, okay, fourth grade class, recess is over, come back
- 7 into the building?
- 8 A We might have something like that. We don't have
- 9 that currently, but I wouldn't rule it out.
- 10 MR. KLINE: We would have no problem with a
- 11 condition that said any amplified system has to comply with
- 12 the County noise ordinance.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, I think it's a little more
- 14 than that when you're talking about, I don't know exactly
- 15 what the usage is, but if you have all day long if you have
- 16 noise in an area --
- 17 THE WITNESS: I understand. Sure.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: -- it's more than just complying
- 19 with the noise ordinance. So that would be something that
- 20 we usually address in a condition involving schools or
- 21 daycare centers in terms of outdoor noise.
- MR. KLINE: It's not, god forbid, a swim club,
- 23 that's for sure.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Kline is making a
- 25 brief reference to another case.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes, I understand.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So I'll look at a
- 3 condition regarding that. Okay.
- 4 BY MR. KLINE:
- 5 Q This is usually about the time where I ask you
- 6 about your outreach efforts to the community. But I guess
- 7 that's sort of self-evident by virtue of the complimentary
- 8 remarks you heard earlier today.
- 9 So let me just kind of wrap up and say, you've
- 10 been an educator for many years. You've gone through this
- 11 process in the District of Columbia, and has educated me on
- 12 the comparisons of the two systems, Mr. Grossman. But based
- on your experience as an educator, and having gone through
- 14 this process before, will the proposed use constitute a
- 15 nuisance because of traffic, number of students, type of
- 16 physical activity, or anything that would be incompatible
- 17 with the surrounding neighborhood?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Once again, that's usually an
- 19 expert witness question. And so recognizing that you
- 20 haven't introduced this gentleman as an expert witness, I'll
- 21 let him answer the question with that caveat in mind.
- THE WITNESS: What I would say is, I did go
- 23 through a process with the school moving to a neighborhood
- 24 before in D.C., in much tighter quarters in terms of -- and
- 25 a much more difficult traffic situation.

1 What I can say as an educator and somebody who has

- 2 been involved with the plans for this, having no neighbors
- 3 on three sides is unusual for a school, especially in a
- 4 residential neighborhood where normally you have neighbors
- 5 looking into your building from every side.
- The beltway on one side, which is its own
- 7 noisemaker, having extra parking, when we saw this property,
- 8 we felt like this, it was an ideal place to move a school,
- 9 something that had already been for more than 60 years
- 10 serving students, about the same number of students that
- 11 we're going to have, in a place where really the
- 12 neighborhood is across the street and again with this extra
- 13 parking and so on, available, we felt like this was an idea
- 14 place to run a school, that doesn't really transform the
- 15 nature of the building where it is located currently.
- And again, we're, in over 25 years of being an
- 17 educator, I know the importance of working with the
- 18 neighbors. And so, despite the fact that we are fairly
- 19 isolated, we will continue to communicate openly with the
- 20 neighbors, and have an open door policy. We've agreed that
- 21 they can have meetings in our school. They will have their
- 22 neighborhood associations. We want to be good neighbors.
- 23 And I will just conclude that we've been in this
- 24 neighborhood now for six years, and we have met with the
- 25 neighbors who use the parks. We've had good relationships.

- 1 So we don't feel like we're moving into a brand new space
- 2 where we're going to be invading. We're really a part of
- 3 this community right now. Our students have done volunteer
- 4 work at Boys and Girls Club at their fine arts center.
- 5 So we are really part and parcel of what's going
- 6 on in this community. And so, again, we feel like we are
- 7 continuing that mission rather than, again, invading a new
- 8 space.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You've made Mr. Kline's
- 10 closing argument for him.
- 11 MR. KLINE: Better than I could have done it.
- 12 BY MR. KLINE:
- 13 Q And just from a purely operational point of view,
- 14 is there anything about the use that would cause an adverse
- 15 effect or an obnoxious noise, glare, lights, activity level
- 16 that would be bothersome to the surrounding neighborhood?
- A Again, it's a typical school, so it's not silent,
- 18 but nothing other than what a normal school on a normal
- 19 school day would have.
- 20 MR. GROSSMAN: Speaking of lights, wasn't that one
- 21 of the suggestions by staff, there had to be additional
- 22 lighting? Didn't I see that, Mr. Kline?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yes, we just, there was one little
- 24 pad, there's a walkway around the back they wanted some
- 25 extra lighting on to be safe. And of course, we're in favor

- 1 of it.
- 2 MR. KLINE: And we have a revised photometric plan
- 3 and it was transmitted to you.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. So the revised --
- 5 MR. KLINE: Correct.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: -- photometric plan deals with
- 7 that.
- 8 MR. KLINE: Correct. And there will be a witness
- 9 to testify about that.
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Any other
- 11 questions of this witness?
- MR. KLINE: I have no further questions of
- 13 Mr. Kaufman.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Ms. Cook, do you have
- 15 any questions of Mr. Kaufman?
- MS. COOK: I don't.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Meininger, do you
- 18 have any questions?
- MR. MEININGER: Nor I, sir.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you, sir.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Hedberg. Mr. Hedberg, would you
- 23 please state and spell your name, and give us your
- 24 professional address?
- MR. HEDBERG: My name is C. Craig Hedberg,

1 spelled, H-E-D-B-E-R-G, and I'm with the transportation

- 2 consulting firm, Integrated Transportation Solutions,
- 3 located in Columbia, Maryland.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Would you raise your
- 5 right hand, please?
- 6 (Witness sworn.)
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed,
- 8 Mr. Kline.
- 9 MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, I've provided you a copy
- 10 of Mr. Hedberg's resume and ask that it be made an exhibit
- 11 in the record of the case.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: That will be Exhibit 25.
- 13 (Exhibit No. 25 was
- 14 marked for identification.)
- 15 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 16 BY MR. KLINE:
- 17 Q Mr. Hedberg, were you asked to prepare an LATR and
- 18 PAMR analysis for this application?
- 19 A Yes, I was.
- 20 Q Would you please basically give us an overview of
- 21 your methodology and your findings and conclusions? But you
- 22 know eventually I'm going to ask you to relieve Mr. Grossman
- 23 of any concerns he might have about the overlap of the uses
- 24 that we're having on the property. Because it was a concern
- 25 for you, too.

1 A Yes. I undertook a local area transportation

- 2 review. We got a scope of work from Park and Planning
- 3 Commission as to what intersections we needed to analyze,
- 4 which extended from Forest Glen at Georgia Avenue, at
- 5 Dameron Drive in Forest Glen, and then Sligo Creek Parkway
- 6 and Forest Glen, and then also looked at the critical lane
- 7 volumes at the driveway, proposed driveway.
- And so we took the peak hour traffic counts as
- 9 described in the guidelines for these intersections. In
- 10 addition, we got a vehicle trip count for the existing
- 11 operations so that we would have a basis on which to project
- 12 future peak hour trips based on the current trip generation.
- So in the analysis, the local area review
- 14 analysis, all intersections were within the critical lane
- 15 volume standard for the Kensington/Wheaton policy area,
- 16 except for Georgia Avenue and Forest Glen at the a.m. peak
- 17 hour.
- 18 So the process that I went through was, I had the
- 19 zip code trip distribution for the existing students, so for
- 20 the existing 75 student population school. I reassigned
- 21 those to the new location. And the, and then I projected
- 22 the trips up to the ultimate which was the 225 students.
- 23 And the intersections met the critical lane volumes at
- 24 all locations except again for Georgia and Forest Glen Road.
- 25 However, there was no negative impact with the school

1 expansion at that intersection. And that's primarily

- 2 because over the years there have been some lane
- 3 redesignations that were conditions of prior approvals on
- 4 Forest Glen Road.
- 5 And right now, there is a dual northbound-to-
- 6 westbound left turn lane. And that's really where the trips
- 7 that are going to the proposed site would follow. And there
- 8 wasn't a critical movement, so that we ended up having a
- 9 zero change.
- 10 Q So you're saying the CLV was no higher, even
- 11 though you increased the enrollment --
- 12 A That's correct.
- 13 Q -- to 225?
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: As I recall the way you phrased it
- 15 that it did not exceed background levels. Is that what --
- 16 THE WITNESS: It doesn't exceed beyond background.
- 17 Yes. Right. Then in terms of the driveway counts, what I
- 18 did in the study was that we took credit for the relocation
- 19 of the school associated with the 75 student population, and
- 20 then in the ultimate when the Boys and Girls Club activities
- 21 were no longer on site, we take credit for that, too.
- 22 And then the difference between the ultimate
- 23 projected volumes for the school and the two credits
- 24 resulted in a net peak hour increase that was subject to
- 25 PAMR, policy area mobility review.

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1 MR. GROSSMAN: When you say take credit for it,
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- 2 what do you mean, you take credit for it?
- 3 THE WITNESS: The PAMR is based on the net
- 4 increase in trips that you add. So the 75 students, it's a
- 5 wash. it's just a relocation of the policy area. They Boys
- 6 and Girls Club would be gone, so that's essentially a credit
- 7 that would be applied that could be taken against the
- 8 ultimate school population.
- 9 And then we ended up with approximately 140 trips
- 10 additional. And that would be subject to PAMR. At one
- 11 point, and this is important to understand this overall
- 12 scheme, as noted on page 15 of the traffic study, I took
- 13 credit for the trips that would be eventually eliminated
- 14 when the Boys Club moves, but I did not subtract out any of
- 15 those trips through any of the intersections. So that's
- 16 assuming that, the traffic assumes that the Boys Club, the
- 17 Boys and Girls Club trips stay on the road, which is a
- 18 conservative assumption. Obviously, there would be some
- 19 reductions through various intersections.
- 20 So the study shows that even if you consider that
- 21 the Boys Club never moved, the full school could be
- 22 developed without having an adverse impact on the
- 23 surrounding intersections.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- BY MR. KLINE:

1 Q So you used a worst case/worst case scenario --

- 2 A That's correct.
- 3 Q -- to determine the capacity of the transportation
- 4 network.
- 5 A Right.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, what about in terms of the
- 7 impact on the immediate surroundings, that is in terms of
- 8 traffic affecting the immediate community, as opposed to the
- 9 overall road capacity analysis?
- 10 THE WITNESS: I interpret your question to mean
- 11 right at the driveway what's happening.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: At the driveway, or on the
- 13 immediate surrounding roads. In other words, I'm not asking
- 14 you about intersectional capacity which you look at in a
- 15 critical lane volume analysis. I'm talking about the
- 16 compatibility with the immediate surroundings around the
- 17 school, if you have all of that additional, the additional
- 18 traffic from the school moving to the Boys and Girls Club,
- 19 while the Boys and Girls Club is still there.
- THE WITNESS: It would be an additional amount of
- 21 traffic, but one of the intersections that was analyzed was
- 22 Forest Glen. It's like a green. And that is well within
- 23 the congestion standards for the County under the total
- 24 traffic conditions.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And what about at the

- 1 driveway, as you mentioned?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, at the driveway, and that's
- 3 where a lot of this discussion has come. And I would say
- 4 that obviously in the end state, which was analyzed in the
- 5 report, there were no Boys and Girls Club trips.
- Now, in the interim, where there will be joint
- 7 uses, there obviously is going to have to be coordination
- 8 and management of traffic. And I think that the issues here
- 9 are relating to the preparation of transportation management
- 10 plan should be spelled out in detail as to how that is all
- 11 going to operate.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 13 THE WITNESS: There is adequate cuing for stacking
- 14 traffic on site under the ultimate condition. And as long
- 15 as there is that coordination of activity associated with
- 16 the Boys and Girls Club and the school, where there won't be
- 17 kind of a compounding, in fact, then there should be no
- 18 problem in the interim stage as well. But I do agree that
- 19 the transportation management plan needs to be developed.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Defined.
- BY MR. KLINE:
- 23 Q I guess I'd like to draw your attention to the
- 24 Planning Board's transmittal letter which I'll just sort of
- 25 characterize as suggesting that the overlap had not been

1 adequately addressed. Let's see here how we address this.

- 2 The revised phase two overlap with Boys and Girls Club
- 3 lease, since this scenario is not included in the traffic
- 4 study. Is that an accurate description of your traffic
- 5 study?
- A I would say no, because as I previously stated, I
- 7 did not subtract out any of the traffic from the Boys and
- 8 Girls Club at the surrounding intersections. That stayed in
- 9 the traffic base. I just added on top of that.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Maybe there's a little confusion
- 12 here, because I think it relates to, again, transportation
- 13 management plan, the coordination, et cetera, as to what
- 14 happens on site. But it's, I over-estimated the traffic
- 15 impact on the surrounding roadway system.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 17 BY MR. KLINE:
- 18 Q You were involved with the applicant and the civil
- 19 engineers in designing the circulation system for the cuing?
- 20 A Right.
- 21 Q Do you have any observations about it, just before
- 22 I ask you the sort of general questions?
- 23 A Well, I think we, as are laid out on, I believe
- 24 there were two exhibits.
- 25 Q Right.

- 1 A And the cuing distance there --
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: You're talking about Exhibits 23A
- 3 and B?
- 4 MR. KLINE: Yes. We didn't mark them yet, but
- 5 that's the right number, yes.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 7 MR. KLINE: 23. Yes. The first of the exhibits
- 8 shows the cuing area that's available for when just a single
- 9 lane is considered. And then ultimately we could add the
- 10 second stacking lane to, when we get closer to the maximum,
- 11 225 student population level.
- 12 With these stacking distances, there would be
- 13 adequate storage room for cars without flowing onto the
- 14 external street system, i.e., Forest Glen Road. And I just
- 15 might point out that I'd worked on the Chestnut Hill School,
- 16 I believe it was, in Bethesda. And we used the two, we used
- 17 the two cuing lines, parallel cuing lines. And it works.
- 18 But again, it comes down to management. People have a
- 19 tendency, you know, to sit and relax. And sometimes
- 20 you need staff to say, hey, move along here, so we don't
- 21 have these big gaps between cars. So when we're managing
- 22 cues, it really is important to have the staff oversight and
- 23 be involved in these.
- MR. GROSSMAN: How much staff would be necessary
- 25 to be outdoors managing it in this kind of situation?

- 1 First, phase one?
- THE WITNESS: Well, you'd probably have, you know,
- 3 you'd have someone helping right at the unloading, and then
- 4 I would say that probably a maximum of three. And by that
- 5 I'm saying --
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: What about a minimum of --
- 7 THE WITNESS: Excuse me?
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: -- what about a minimum of how
- 9 many?
- 10 THE WITNESS: I would say about a minimum of two.
- MR. GROSSMAN: For phase one?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: And then what about phase two?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Again, assuming one person at the
- 15 unload point, and I would say you need a second person when
- 16 you get into the double cue, and then probably a third
- 17 person for the cue right from Forest Glen Road.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: So, Mr. Kaufman, are you ready to
- 19 supply three people?
- MR. KAUFMAN: Ready and able.
- 21 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 22 BY MR. KLINE:
- 23 Q Then it's your professional conclusion that the
- 24 cuing will be adequate so no vehicles will back out onto
- 25 Forest Glen Road?

- 1 A With proper management, yes.
- Q Okay. And is this circulation system in either
- 3 phase, both phases one and two, safe, adequate and efficient
- 4 for making sure we have no conflicts with vehicles and
- 5 students arriving?
- A Yes, I would say so. There is a break, obviously,
- 7 for the departing vehicles to exit out toward Forest Glen
- 8 Road. And so there's no reason why there should not be a
- 9 smooth flow of traffic.
- 10 Q The ordinance asks us, or asked you to conclude
- 11 whether the traffic would cause a nuisance or an impact on
- 12 the surrounding neighborhood. And your opinion on that
- 13 would be?
- 14 A No, it wouldn't. Again, I go back to this
- 15 management. I want to come back to that a lot because that
- 16 is important.
- 17 Q And I mentioned the ability to exceed 87 students
- 18 per acre is determined on, is additional traffic generated
- 19 by the additional density over 87 student per acre will not
- 20 adversely affect the surrounding streets. And that's your
- 21 conclusion, that will occur?
- 22 A Yes. Yes, it is, because I analyzed for the 225
- 23 students, maximum student level.
- MR. KLINE: I have no further questions of
- 25 Mr. Hedberg.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: And will the proposed setup be safe

- 2 for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, it will.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Under all phases and under all
- 5 situations?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes. There is going to be more
- 7 sidewalks as the density is increased, and to provide access
- 8 up the driveway and into the building.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And in response to
- 10 Mr. Kline's question about traffic nuisance, this particular
- 11 special exception has a provision that others do not which
- 12 go beyond critical hour analysis. It covers the entire time
- 13 that the school is in session. And does your answer pertain
- 14 to the entire time the school is in session, that there will
- 15 not be an adverse consequence by traffic on the community?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's my conclusion.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Particularly, as was referenced, the
- 19 availability of the additional parking for special events
- 20 over at the Schweinhaut Center.
- 21 MR. GROSSMAN: Right. I used different, critical
- 22 hour. I'm talking about peak hour. Most, of course, LATR
- 23 talks about the peak hour and the peak period.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 25 MR. GROSSMAN: But in private educational

- 1 institutions, special exceptions, they have a specific
- 2 provision that talks about traffic impacts at all times.
- 3 And so it goes beyond the LATR analysis.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I realize it's a stronger test.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. And it passes that stronger
- 8 test?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, it does.
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And I take it that
- 11 you'll work with Mr. Kline, Mr. Kaufman, and Mr. Meininger
- 12 on a traffic management plan?
- 13 THE WITNESS: I will.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Meininger, did you
- 15 have any questions of this witness?
- MR. MEININGER: No, sir, I do not.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. I see Ms. Cook is not
- 18 in the room so I can't ask her. Anything further of this
- 19 witness?
- MR. KLINE: No, sir.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you, Mr. Hedberg.
- 22 Don't let it go to your head that you got to be the number
- 23 two witness here.
- THE WITNESS: I've never done so.
- 25 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Let's take a break here

- 1 until, it's now about 11:37, until 11:45.
- 2 (Whereupon, at 11:37 a.m., a brief recess was
- 3 taken.)
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Back on the record. You may call
- 5 your next witness, Mr. Kline.
- 6 MR. KLINE: Mr. Smith, when you're ready, would
- 7 you give us your name and professional address?
- 8 MR. SMITH: My name is Aaron Smith. I work for A.
- 9 Morton Thomas and Associates, a civil engineering firm
- 10 located at 12750 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, Maryland.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Smith, would you
- 12 raise your right hand, please?
- 13 (Witness sworn.)
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed,
- 15 Mr. Kline.
- 16 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 17 BY MR. KLINE:
- 18 Q Mr. Smith, what is your profession?
- 19 A I'm a civil engineer.
- 20 Q And have you ever qualified before this hearing
- 21 examiner or some other similar board or agency as an expert
- 22 in the field of civil engineering?
- 23 A I have not.
- Q Okay. Well then tell us something about your
- 25 educational background?

- 1 A I have a bachelor's of science in civil
- 2 engineering from University of Notre Dame and a master's of
- 3 engineering from the University of Maryland.
- 4 Q And how long, when did you acquire those, or how
- 5 long have you practiced civil engineering?
- 6 A Sure. I've practiced civil engineering for 14
- 7 years. I actually got my bachelor's in 1997, and my
- 8 master's in 2002.
- 9 Q And you're presently employed by A. Morton Thomas?
- 10 A That's correct.
- 11 Q Okay. Just basically tell us your progression
- 12 through the firm or what titles you've held in the firm.
- 13 A Sure. I've been with A. Morton Thomas for nine
- 14 years. I was hired on as a project engineer. I've since
- 15 been promoted to project manager, and I'm currently an
- 16 associate with the firm.
- 17 Q What is the scope of your responsibilities with
- 18 the firm, and then generally speaking, and then
- 19 specifically, this project?
- 20 A Sure. With A. Morton Thomas, as an associate, I
- 21 manage a staff of four people. I manage projects, as well
- 22 as the staff. For this particular project I am, I have the
- 23 role of project manager, overseeing the design on a day to
- 24 day basis.
- 25 Q Can you name a project in Montgomery County we

- 1 might all be familiar with that you've had sort of lead
- 2 responsibility for that was comparable to the Siena School
- 3 project?
- 4 A Sure. Grace Episcopal Day School.
- 5 On Connecticut Avenue?
- 6 A On Connecticut Avenue. It was a project that I
- 7 worked on primarily as a project engineer. It involved the
- 8 addition to a private school.
- 9 Q Not one that unfortunately required a special
- 10 exception in this case, right?
- 11 A No.
- 12 Q Yes, I'm sure. You're registered as a civil
- 13 engineer in which jurisdictions?
- 14 A I'm registered in Maryland, Virginia, and the
- 15 District of Columbia.
- 16 Q And have you made presentations to the Montgomery
- 17 County Planning Board?
- 18 A I have participated in presentations to the
- 19 Planning Board.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, based on Mr. Smith's
- 21 years of experience, his professional training and
- 22 experience particularly, I'd like to offer him as an expert
- 23 in the field of civil engineering.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Mr. Meininger, do you have any
- 25 questions of this witness as to his expertise?

- 1 MR. MEININGER: No, sir, I do not.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Based on Mr. Smith's
- 3 background as indicated in his resume which has been handed
- 4 to us as Exhibit 26, and his testimony as to his
- 5 qualifications, I accept him as an expert in civil
- 6 engineering. All right. You may proceed, Mr. Kline.
- 7 (Exhibit No. 26 was
- 8 marked for identification.)
- 9 BY MR. KLINE:
- 10 Q Well, you were talking about basically what you do
- 11 with the project. And with regard to this project, just
- 12 kind of give us an overview of your responsibilities for the
- 13 preparation of the plans that we've got here today that
- 14 you'll be using as experts, or I'm sorry, as exhibits?
- 15 A As the project manager on the project, I've worked
- 16 with our project engineer in the development of all the
- 17 exhibits that were presented today, as well as our landscape
- 18 architecture department in the development of the NRIFSD
- 19 forest conservation plan.
- 20 Q And you mentioned the NRIFSD, and I see you posted
- 21 Exhibit 6A, which is sheet one of the NRI. Did you want to
- 22 use that to tell us something about the features of the
- 23 property as it exists today?
- 24 A Yes. I just wanted to run quickly through the
- 25 existing conditions as probably the best plan to use. As we

1 discussed, it's a unique project in that the Boys and Girls

- 2 property is about 1.2 acres, and it's surrounded by the
- 3 leased area from Parks and Planning.
- 4 The existing site, the 1.2 acres includes the
- 5 building and portions of the athletic field adjacent on the
- 6 left side. And the parking and access is almost exclusively
- 7 on the leased area from Parks and Planning.
- 8 There are, there is existing forested area on the
- 9 site that will not be impacted as part of the project, and
- 10 there is --
- 11 Q And let me just ask you, looking at Exhibit 6A, is
- 12 that finger, shaded finger I see up in the middle of the
- 13 site, is that the edge area of the vegetation?
- 14 A Yes, that is one of the forest stands identified,
- 15 and actually, primarily the only forest stand on, within the
- 16 special exception area. It's surrounded by some forested
- 17 areas that are Parks and Planning.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: I guess we should clarify, for the
- 19 record. Mr. Kline used the term NRI, which is short for
- 20 NRIFSD, which is short for natural resource inventory forest
- 21 stand delineation, which is a required filing in these
- 22 cases. Go ahead.
- BY MR. KLINE:
- Q Mention topography also, because that becomes kind
- 25 of an interesting cue later on when we deal with the height

1 issue. So just tell us about the general overall topography

- 2 on the property?
- 3 A Sure. The site generally, there's a fair amount
- 4 of elevation change on the site. The school building
- 5 adjacent to Forest Glen Road is at an elevation. The
- 6 elevation then rises away from Forest Glen Road towards the
- 7 Capital Beltway to the south. It then drops off
- 8 significantly to the west, to the lower playing fields. So
- 9 there is a rather significant grade on the access drive
- 10 leading into the property from Forest Glen Drive.
- 11 The parking lot in the back, on the southern end
- 12 of the property is fairly level, as you'd expect the parking
- 13 lot to be. And obviously the fields, once you make that
- 14 elevation drop from east to west are level, and generally
- 15 draining towards, everything obviously drains towards Sligo
- 16 Creek to the west.
- 17 MR. KLINE: Okay. Can you put up the special
- 18 exception plan for me? Mr. Grossman, I mentioned earlier, I
- 19 have a copy of what I thought was a transmittal to you in
- 20 October sending you a revised special exception plan. But
- 21 as I look at the exhibit list, either it somehow didn't get
- 22 in the exhibit list, or I didn't get it to you. I'm not
- 23 sure which. But what I'd like to do is make this exhibit,
- 24 I'm sorry, make these sheets exhibits in the record of the
- 25 case.

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1 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. We do have, received
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- 2 October 12, '11, a letter dated October 11, '11, from you
- 3 transmitting the LATR review and the PAMR review. I don't
- 4 see anything other than that.
- 5 MR. KLINE: I have a copy of a letter --
- MR. GROSSMAN: No, here's another one.
- 7 October 12, '11. The following documents to be incorporated
- 8 in the case file amended petition for special exception and
- 9 the owners of the property. I don't see any --
- 10 MR. KLINE: Well, there was supposed to be another
- 11 transmittal that day that had revised site plan --
- MR. GROSSMAN: I see.
- 13 MR. KLINE: -- landscaping plan, and the phasing,
- 14 the circulation plans that I showed you today.
- MR. GROSSMAN: That we didn't -- I see.
- 16 MR. KLINE: Either I didn't get it to you or
- 17 somehow it got lost between my office and yours.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Is that also, did that also
- 19 included amended lighting plan, or is that --
- MR. KLINE: The photometric plan, I believe, was
- 21 transmitted at a later date. It was certainly transmitted
- 22 to you in the last 48 hours, but I --
- MR. GROSSMAN: I don't think so.
- 24 MR. KLINE: Yes. I don't see that in the exhibit
- 25 record either. So the one that you actually -- I'm going to

- 1 have to ask Mr. Smith about that when we get to it.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 3 MR. KLINE: But in any event, I'd ask that the
- 4 phase one and phase two special exception plan --
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 6 MR. KLINE: -- and the landscaping plan.
- 7 Actually, I guess we just have --
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: So let's mark them as -- all right.
- 9 So Exhibit 27. You have your special exception plan is in
- 10 two pages.
- 11 (Exhibit Nos. 27A and 27B were
- marked for identification.)
- MR. KLINE: It is, right.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So we'll say --
- MR. KLINE: That suggests phase one only --
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. 27A is phase one site
- 17 plan.
- 18 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
- MR. GROSSMAN: And 27B is phase two/phase three?
- 20 MR. KLINE: Well, it doesn't say that. It's
- 21 actually the end state, so it just says, special exception
- 22 site plan.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So 27B is, does it say
- 24 end state on it? Is that what it says?
- MR. KLINE: It does not. It says, sheet SE-1.

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1 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. We'll just call it final
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- 2 site plan. How's that? Site plan. And sheet SE-1 it is?
- 3 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir. The previous one is sheet
- 4 SE-2.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. So we have SE-2 coming
- 6 before SE-1 here.
- 7 MR. KLINE: The only reason I did that was because
- 8 one showed the way it is today, and then the second one is
- 9 the end state. And then sheet LS-101 --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, wait a minute. Which one is
- 11 it? You said the phase one site plan, 27A, is the one
- 12 that's SE-2 is what you said to me. Is that wrong?
- MR. KLINE: 27A is phase one.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: That's phase one, and that's SE-2?
- MR. KLINE: SE-2, yes, sir.
- 16 MR. GROSSMAN: And then the final site plan is
- 17 SE-1 even though that's essentially -- and that's sheet
- 18 SE-1. Okay. All right. So then you have a landscape plan
- 19 or something?
- MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
- 21 MR. GROSSMAN: And that's 28. How many pages is
- 22 that one?
- 23 (Exhibit No. 28 was
- 24 marked for identification.)
- MR. KLINE: It's a single page.

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1 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So landscape plan, 28.
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- 2 I guess it's a revised landscape plan. Is that --
- 3 MR. KLINE: It is revised.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: All right; so, revised --
- 5 MR. KLINE: Revision date of October 11, 2011.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: -- landscape plan. And I guess
- 7 Exhibits 27A and B, are those revised plans as well?
- 8 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So we'll call 27A as
- 10 revised phase one site plan. And B is also, is revised
- 11 final site plan. Okay.
- 12 BY MR. KLINE:
- 13 Q Mr. Smith, is there much engineering involved with
- 14 phase one?
- 15 A No. Phase one, the site engineering is limited.
- 16 There will be a new, something that hasn't been mentioned
- 17 yet in the hearing, there will be a new water service to the
- 18 building in order to meet fire codes, as part of the
- 19 renovation.
- Otherwise, the site improvements will be limited
- 21 to re-striping of the parking lot and some improvements
- 22 around the exterior of the building to introduce some new
- 23 entrances to the renovated building.
- And one of the comments by staff was to create a
- 25 sidewalk connection from the public sidewalk on Forest Glen

1 Road. And so that will be done as part of phase one, as

- 2 well.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 4 BY MR. KLINE:
- 5 Q Is this the best time to talk about the walkway to
- 6 the athletic fields and how you are going to illuminate
- 7 that?
- 8 A Sure. As one of the conditions of the staff
- 9 approval, there was some concern about the lighting of,
- 10 under phase one, the lighting of an existing walkway access
- 11 to the lower fields from the upper parking lot. That
- 12 walkway is located here on the south end of the existing
- 13 building.
- 14 O Okay. And you're pointing at Exhibit 27A right
- 15 now?
- 16 A Right, Exhibit 27A adjacent to the existing pool.
- 17 So west of the existing pool and south of the existing
- 18 building there's a walkway that provides access to the lower
- 19 fields. And under the phase one there was some concern by
- 20 staff that that would be properly illuminated. We see their
- 21 concern and we proposed a building mounted light fixture on
- 22 the existing building wall in that area which will
- 23 illuminate the walkway, essentially, shining away from the
- 24 existing building towards the capital beltway and the
- 25 walkway.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And is that reflected

- 2 on that exhibit, the new lighting?
- 3 THE WITNESS: It's not currently reflected on this
- 4 exhibit, but it is something that we accept as one of the
- 5 comments made by staff.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Is there an exhibit that reflects
- 7 the new lighting?
- 8 MR. KLINE: There would not be. I was thinking I
- 9 would go ahead and add it into the statement of operations,
- 10 amended statement of operations.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: I mean, when they come out to
- 12 inspect, they're going to have to have -- the site plan is
- 13 going to have to show whatever the lighting is. And so
- 14 they'll look for --
- MR. KLINE: We could prepare and submit an exhibit
- 16 to you basically showing where that would be located, and
- 17 the type of fixture. And in fact, Mr. Wheeler will give you
- 18 the details about the fixture.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. What I'm saying is that
- 20 you're going to need to submit a revised site plan that's
- 21 going to show, or if you have a separate lighting plan,
- 22 something that shows that you have, where you have every
- 23 fixture that you propose on it.
- MR. KLINE: Yes.
- 25 MR. CARR: I thought the revised site plan had it,

- 1 the light fixture?
- THE WITNESS: It may have. I don't know that it's
- 3 shown on this particular plan.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Well this is the particular plan,
- 5 isn't it? I mean, that's my question. If this is being
- 6 submitted as the revised site plan?
- 7 MR. KLINE: We will submit something to you that
- 8 has that on there.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 10 BY MR. KLINE:
- 11 Q Let me take care of some of the mechanical stuff.
- 12 How does this project comply with the forest conservation
- 13 law?
- 14 A It is subject to the forest conservation law, but
- 15 it qualifies for an exemption from forest conservation, due
- 16 to the fact that it's not impacting existing forested areas.
- 17 So forest conservation measures are essentially to protect
- 18 the existing. And there will be tree protection fencing,
- 19 some root pruning and signage to protect existing vegetation
- 20 in place.
- MR. GROSSMAN: I notice that your, it says here
- 22 that Exhibit 6D and E are forest conservation exemption
- 23 plans. What are they? They usually have, if you have an
- 24 exemption, you don't have the plans, right, additional
- 25 plans? What are the forest conservation exemption plans?

1 THE WITNESS: I just want to take a look at, make

- 2 sure we're looking at the same plan.
- 3 BY MR. KLINE:
- 4 Q You would have to make an application to qualify
- 5 for the exemption, would you not?
- 6 A Right. So --
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: Usually that's based on the NRIFSD,
- 8 isn't it?
- 9 THE WITNESS: It is. We submitted the plan. One
- 10 thing to note that they are actually, it's part of the
- 11 NRIFSD because we are leasing some property from Parks and
- 12 Planning, parks staff required that we do both, do an NRIFSD
- 13 for the Boys and Girls Club property, but also -- for the
- 14 special exception area, but also do a simplified NRIFSD for
- 15 the entire parcel of Parks and Planning which extends
- 16 actually across the beltway and includes portions of the
- 17 Sligo Creek Golf Course.
- 18 So subsequent to that, we provided forest
- 19 conservation exemption plans showing the worksheets for
- 20 those, for those properties.
- MR. GROSSMAN: For the extended area, the entire
- 22 area?
- THE WITNESS: Right.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- THE WITNESS: And as to why we did in this case,

1 and maybe not in other cases, I don't know the specifics of

- 2 why we did that, but it may have been a comment from staff,
- 3 they wanted to make sure they had a record of everything
- 4 from parks.
- 5 MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, this is a copy of the
- 6 exhibit in the record, in the file. And you can see what
- 7 Mr. Smith is talking about.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 9 MR. KLINE: The property relative to the beltway
- 10 going on the southern edge, how much area we had to cover
- 11 beyond that. It made us rethink whether we wanted to lease
- 12 any land from Parks and Planning.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So, but the bottom line now is that
- 14 for the subject site, which includes both the leased area
- 15 and the owned area, it would be, you have a letter with a
- 16 forest conservation exemption, is that correct?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. And that's Exhibit 6C in the
- 19 file, dated July 25, '11. All right.
- BY MR. KLINE:
- 21 Q Mr. Smith, by providing Mr. Grossman a letter from
- 22 DPS, would you just describe your storm water management
- 23 concept in this review and acceptance by the County?
- 24 A Yes. The storm water management concept has been
- 25 approved by the Department of Permitting Services. It will

1 be, storm water management will be constructed as part of

- 2 phase two of construction. Storm water management measures
- 3 include micro-bioretention areas.
- 4 One area on the south end of the property, in the
- 5 proposed, middle of the proposed parking lot; a micro-
- 6 bioretention area to the west of the existing building,
- 7 adjacent to the lower play fields. There will also be a
- 8 grass swale along the north side of the property adjacent to
- 9 Forest Glen Road, providing treatment for the new sidewalk
- 10 along the frontage of the property.
- There will be green roof on the new building
- 12 addition being constructed over the existing pool. And
- 13 there will also be porous pavement in the proposed parking
- 14 area, in designated parking spots, in order to meet the
- 15 requirements.
- 16 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. The letter from DPS
- 17 accepting your storm water management concept plan is marked
- 18 as Exhibit 29. That's the letter of December 1, 2011. And
- 19 your storm water management concept plan is in the record.
- 20 Is it? I think so.
- 21 (Exhibit No. 29 was
- 22 marked for identification.)
- MR. KLINE: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Yes, as Exhibit 8. That hasn't
- 25 changed. Okay.

- 1 BY MR. KLINE:
- 2 Q Mr. Smith, there was a staff recommendation that
- 3 we had an additional tree to get canopy coverage over the
- 4 parking lot. And that was accomplished with the landscaping
- 5 plan that I marked as an exhibit a second ago?
- 6 A We will be, we will add a tree, and that will
- 7 require a revised plan as well.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. So that's not in Exhibit 28?
- 9 THE WITNESS: It's not in the current exhibit.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 11 BY MR. KLINE:
- 12 Q I was going to have you, well, are there any other
- 13 engineering issues related to later phases? We're looking
- 14 at 27B. I know there was a suggestion, exhibit condition 13
- 15 that we addressed, ADA access. And you've indicated to me
- 16 that that's essentially solved by other work that's done as
- 17 part of phase two. Can you explain what that is?
- 18 A Sure. There was a comment regarding ADA access
- 19 from the proposed ADA parking spaces to the building. That
- 20 will be addressed under both phase one and phase two. Under
- 21 phase one, it's Exhibit 27A, we designated ADA parking
- 22 adjacent to the, I guess just east of the existing pool.
- 23 There will be an ADA compliant path from those parking
- 24 spaces to the new entrance that's going to be part of,
- 25 introduced as part of the renovation of the building on the

- 1 south side of the existing structure.
- 2 Under phase two, there will be ADA compliant
- 3 parking to the south of both the existing building and
- 4 proposed building addition. And there will be an ADA
- 5 compliant path then to the main entrance, which is located
- 6 at the southeast corner of the new building addition.
- 7 There will also be, as part of that compliant
- 8 path, there will be an ADA curb ramp running from the
- 9 parking lot to the sidewalk in front of the building.
- 10 Q Why don't you stay up there for a second. So
- 11 essentially, condition number 13 has been addressed then, by
- 12 these plans?
- 13 A Yes, they are.
- 14 O Fine. While you're up looking at Exhibit 27B --
- MR. GROSSMAN: I guess I should ask, has it been
- 16 addressed in these plans, or is it something that will have
- 17 to be added --
- 18 THE WITNESS: No, it is addressed in these plans.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- BY MR. KLINE:
- 21 Q Using Exhibit 27B, and I see you've got parking
- 22 tabulations on there, just show us where the parking is
- 23 located and how it's expanding between phase one and phase
- 24 two?
- 25 A Okay. Under phase one, we are not, we are only

- 1 re-striping the parking lot. There will be designated
- 2 parallel parking spaces along the east side of, Omaha Beach
- 3 Drive, along the access drive.
- 4 The main parking lot in the south end of the
- 5 property will also be re-striped to introduce a parking
- 6 island in the center, parking along the south end of the,
- 7 adjacent to the pool area, and then the ADA parking spaces
- 8 that were just previously mentioned.
- 9 Under phase two, the access drive coming in will
- 10 be widened slightly to introduce head in parking along the
- 11 east side of the building. And the back parking lot will
- 12 also be reconfigured to introduce the micro-bioretention
- 13 area in the center. That will also be expanded slightly to
- 14 the south to add additional head in parking along the south
- 15 end of the property.
- 16 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Now at the very
- 17 beginning of this session there was a little colloquy
- 18 between Mr. Kline and myself as to whether or not a parking
- 19 waiver was needed. Just a question about where your, once
- 20 you have this parking set up, the one which it was thought
- 21 might require a waiver, if, in fact, the property line is
- 22 counted as the extent of the leased area, would you be,
- 23 would you meet the setback requirements for, set forth in
- 24 59-E-2.83 or whatever. I think that's the section. Or
- 25 would you still need a waiver?

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1 MR. KLINE: We're in the R -- in the zone we're
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- 2 in, we would need, I believe, because it doubles the
- 3 requirement, since it's a side yard, it would be 16 feet, I
- 4 think, at a minimum. And we don't have, obviously, 16 feet
- 5 between the property line and the parking bay, if that
- 6 answers your question.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: I'm talking about, not the -- I
- 8 know you felt you needed a waiver because you had that
- 9 straddling, you were straddling the line. You were right on
- 10 the line between the property line and the leased area.
- 11 But I'm saying, if you counted the leased area, the extent
- 12 of the leased area, do you have 16 feet from the parking
- 13 area to the extent of the leased areas?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Actually, I think we would still,
- 15 the leased area is essentially the edge of pavement on the
- 16 east side of the property where we are designating parallel
- 17 parking spaces. So I think even under the condition where
- 18 we held the leasehold limits as our property line, we would
- 19 still require the waiver to have the parallel parking
- 20 spaces.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So the waiver you are requesting is
- 22 actually, I mean, as I understood it, the waiver that you
- 23 were requesting was the waiver for the parking area that
- 24 straddled the property line and the leased area. But you
- 25 actually, also need a waiver for the parking spaces adjacent

- 1 to the limit, the outer limit of the leased area?
- 2 MR. KLINE: That appears to be the case. Yes
- 3 sir.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 5 BY MR. KLINE:
- 6 Q And maybe what we ought to do is, I would ask Mr.
- 7 Smith, and what's going on to the east of us? What's the
- 8 impact on what's there?
- 9 A To the east of the property you actually have a
- 10 fairly steep slope up to an existing ball field. And this
- 11 area currently functioning as parking for the Boys and Girls
- 12 Club, and as Parks and Planning property, there is parallel
- 13 parking along that edge currently.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 15 BY MR. KLINE:
- 16 Q And then beyond the athletic fields, you would
- 17 have a parking lot to serve the Schweinhaut Center as well?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 MR. GROSSMAN: Where is the Schweinhaut Center
- 20 located on this?
- 21 BY MR. KLINE:
- 22 Q It's Exhibit number 10, Mr. Smith.
- 23 A So the Schweinhaut Center is part of, I believe,
- 24 and I haven't looked, to be honest with you, much beyond our
- 25 property line, is part of the Parks and Planning property

1 which extends up Forest Glen Road, between Forest Glen Road

- 2 and the beltway.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So you're saying it's directly east
- 4 of the subject site?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 6 MR. KLINE: It's on the property directly. We
- 7 have in here a photograph in my briefcase, if you want me to
- 8 get that and put it into the record.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Is there a photograph in the record
- 10 of the area?
- 11 MR. KLINE: No, sir. There is not.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: I think that we should have a
- 13 photograph in here anyway.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I should also mention, the property
- 15 boundary here on the east side is not only a steep elevation
- 16 change going up to the play field, but it's also heavily
- 17 forested.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 19 THE WITNESS: There's really no visual connection
- 20 between the two.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, I can't put my hand on
- 22 the photo that I thought I had, but I see that on attachment
- 23 one of the staff report, which is on page 21, starts getting
- 24 closer.
- 25 (Discussion off the record.)

1 MR. KLINE: It gives you a sense of the ball field

- 2 that Mr. Smith was talking about, and then the beginning of
- 3 the Schweinhaut Center further to the east.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: I see a ball field. You're saying
- 5 that the, in looking at attachment one to the staff report,
- 6 that the Schweinhaut Center is the building to the east,
- 7 east/northeast of the ball field?
- 8 MR. KAUFMAN: That's right. It's the large
- 9 building, and there is that small building that has a little
- 10 theater, but it's the large building in the corner, upper
- 11 right hand corner of the --
- 12 MR. KLINE: And that was Mr. Kaufman providing
- 13 that answer.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: Mr. Kaufman, is that, what is the
- 15 smaller building there?
- MR. KAUFMAN: It's sort of a big empty building
- 17 sometimes leased by the County as a theater.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. I notice, Mr. Kline, that
- 19 there are photographs, ground level photographs attached as
- 20 attachment four, specifically the site photographs. Do we
- 21 know who took those photographs, or are those done by staff?
- MR. KLINE: That would be from Ms. Kamen --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 24 MR. KLINE: -- based on her site visit.
- 25 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Kaufman, you are

1 still under oath. Can you confirm that those, the captions

- 2 on those photographs, attachment four to the staff report,
- 3 accurately reflect what is depicted in the picture?
- 4 MR. KAUFMAN: Let me take a look. Yes, those are
- 5 accurate.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. Next question.
- 7 BY MR. KLINE:
- 8 Q In the category of sort of technical issues, is
- 9 sewer and water service going to be adequate to handle the
- 10 expanded facility in this location?
- 11 A Yes, it will. As previously mentioned, we'll have
- 12 a new water service constructed under phase one to meet the
- 13 fire requirements. Otherwise there are adequate, adequate
- 14 facilities.
- 15 Q Because we're in, I'll say, a sensitive
- 16 environmental area with Sligo Creek Parkway around us, will
- 17 the amount of land disturbance encroach into the area, in
- 18 the creek area, and/or have any adverse environmental
- 19 impacts on the stream valley?
- 20 A It will not encroach on the stream valley, and
- 21 there will be no adverse impacts. In fact, there will be,
- 22 as part of this project, an environmental benefit to Sligo
- 23 Creek in that under the existing condition there is a, the
- 24 existing paved parking lot goes completely untreated.
- 25 Under the phase two construction where storm water

1 management is introduced, that parking lot, as well as the

- 2 access drive and the new building addition, all of the
- 3 disturbed area under the phase two construction, will be
- 4 treated and will provide benefit to Sligo, since we are
- 5 immediately adjacent to Sligo Creek, will actually provide a
- 6 very direct benefit to the waterway.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: Is this subject site in a special
- 8 protection area?
- 9 THE WITNESS: It is not.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Is it in a primary management area?
- 11 THE WITNESS: It is not.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 13 BY MR. KLINE:
- 14 Q Exhibit 27B has a fairly detailed development
- 15 standards table. Does the use meet all the development
- 16 standards of the underlying zone and the special exception
- 17 use?
- 18 A Yes, it does.
- 19 Q Mr. Smith, in your professional opinion, will the
- 20 proposed use from an engineering perspective be detrimental
- 21 to the use or development of surrounding properties?
- 22 A No, it will not.
- 23 Q Is there anything that you've been able to
- 24 identify in your research that would show whether there
- 25 would be an adverse impact on surrounding properties by the

- 1 proposed use from an engineering point of view?
- 2 A No.
- MR. KLINE: No further questions of Mr. Smith.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Mr. Meininger, do you have any
- 5 questions of Mr. Smith?
- 6 MR. MEININGER: I'm impressed with the detail of
- 7 information, and I do not have any questions.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. I don't think I have
- 9 any either at this time, so thank you, Mr. Smith, and
- 10 congratulations on the first certification as an expert
- 11 witness.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MR. GROSSMAN: You can now go home and tell your
- 14 wife, if you have one, if not, your friends, that you are an
- 15 expert, and so what you say goes.
- 16 THE WITNESS: That sounds good. Thank you.
- 17 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Your next witness.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Wheeler.
- MR. WHEELER: My name is Tom Wheeler. I'm
- 20 employed by Cox, Graae, Spack Architects at 2909 M Street,
- 21 Northwest, in Washington, D.C.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Would you raise your right hand,
- 23 please?
- 24 (Witness sworn.)
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. You may proceed,

- 1 Mr. Kline.
- MR. KLINE: I have a resume for you, Mr. Grossman.
- 3 I've just got to remember which pile I put it in.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: My wife accuses me of having a
- 5 piling system also. So this will be Exhibit 30. Wheeler
- 6 resume. Mr. Kline.
- 7 (Exhibit No. 30 was
- 8 marked for identification.)
- 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MR. KLINE:
- 11 Q Mr. Wheeler, your profession, sir?
- 12 A I am a registered architect.
- 13 Q Have you ever qualified as an expert in the field
- 14 of architecture before Mr. Grossman or in a similar board
- 15 situation?
- 16 A No, I have not.
- 17 O You've heard how we did this with Mr. Smith?
- 18 A Uh-huh.
- 19 Q Just tell us about your educational background and
- 20 how far back that was?
- 21 A Okay. Sure. I hold both a bachelor of science
- 22 degree in architecture, as well as a graduate degree in
- 23 architecture, both from the University of Maryland at
- 24 College Park. And I graduated, received my master's degree
- 25 in 1991.

1 Q And you've been practicing architecture during,

- 2 since that time?
- 3 A That's correct. 20 years.
- 4 Q And just tell us sort of where you've been and
- 5 what you've done?
- 6 A Uh-huh. I've been with my current firm for 15
- 7 years. Before that I was with the firm of AI, AI Boggs,
- 8 actually, at the time in downtown D.C. They are specialized
- 9 in mostly commercial work, commercial interiors, as well as
- 10 some base building commercial work.
- 11 Since coming to this firm, I was hired in as an
- 12 intern architect, subsequently received my registration, and
- 13 then worked my way up through a project architect being
- 14 responsible for design and development of documents to
- 15 project management. I'm currently an associate principal
- 16 and partial owner of the firm for the last four years.
- 17 Q And does your firm specialize in any particular
- 18 segment of the field of architecture?
- 19 A We have had a large focus for the last probably 15
- 20 years in independent schools throughout the D.C. and
- 21 metropolitan area, Virginia, D.C., and Maryland.
- 22 Q Could you name a project that we in the room may
- 23 be familiar with that you've been intimately involved in?
- 24 A Sure. Unlike Mr. Smith, I haven't personally done
- 25 any projects in Maryland. Our firm has, but several

1 independent schools I've worked on are the Fields School

- 2 that Mr. Kaufman used to be associated with, the Maret
- 3 School, Washington International School, and then in
- 4 Arlington, the Reed School project.
- 5 Q And your, the scope of your responsibility there,
- 6 relate that to what you've been responsible for dealing with
- 7 the Siena School?
- 8 A Sure. On those projects I worked -- all these
- 9 projects take many years, so both as project architect and
- 10 project manager. On the Siena School project I'm serving
- 11 both of those roles, developing the documents as well as
- 12 managing the day to day operations of the project, both in
- 13 house as well as with our consultant team and the owner's
- 14 side.
- 15 Q And that gets you both into, I guess into design
- 16 as well as management of other people who are actually
- 17 putting pencil on paper?
- 18 A That's correct.
- 19 Q What jurisdictions are you registered in?
- 20 A I'm registered in the State of Virginia and the
- 21 District of Columbia.
- MR. GROSSMAN: But not in Maryland?
- 23 THE WITNESS: I personally am not registered in
- 24 Maryland. We have five partners in the firm, and we sort of
- 25 distribute the registrations among us. So we have several

- 1 partners that are registered in Maryland.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: I take it that architectural
- 3 science does not differ from Virginia to Maryland and the
- 4 District?
- 5 THE WITNESS: It does not, not substantially. All
- 6 of them are governed by, obviously, local zoning
- 7 requirements that differ from one jurisdiction to the other.
- 8 Building codes are under, you know, national and
- 9 international code requirements with local modification. So
- 10 it's pretty much consistent.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 12 BY MR. KLINE:
- 13 Q Would you call architecture a science or an art
- 14 form?
- 15 A We call it a practice because we never get perfect
- 16 at it. I think it's a little bit of both. Yes.
- 17 Q Sure. You're a member of what professional
- 18 associations?
- 19 A I'm a member of the American Institute of
- 20 Architects, the District of Columbia Building Industries
- 21 Association.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, based on Mr. Wheeler's
- 23 experience, years of practice, and his specialty in private
- 24 educational institutions, I'd like to offer him as an expert
- 25 in the field of architecture to this project.

- 1 MR. GROSSMAN: Mr. Meininger, do you have any
- 2 questions of this witness regarding his qualifications as an
- 3 expert?
- 4 MR. MEININGER: I do not.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Based on Mr. Wheeler's
- 6 resume, his experience, his education and background, I
- 7 accept him as an expert in architecture.
- 8 BY MR. KLINE:
- 9 Q Mr. Wheeler, I'm going to kind of let you do this
- 10 as you would like to do it.
- 11 A Okay.
- 12 Q I've got your boards here.
- 13 A Right.
- 14 Q You tell me what you want to put up there, but
- 15 basically what we'd like you to do is kind of take us from
- 16 what you've got today, a shell building --
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q -- and basically, what you'll be doing in phase
- 19 one and then later in phases.
- 20 A Sure. I'd be happy to. I'll start using Exhibit
- 21 27, 27A, which is the existing conditions plan. And from an
- 22 architectural standpoint, our work in phase one is going to
- 23 be isolated largely to the interior of the building.
- The existing building is approximately 20,000
- 25 square feet, and the lower level has a series of large open

- 1 activity spaces.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: Let me interrupt for a second. We
- 3 didn't mark that as an existing conditions plan. We marked
- 4 it as the revised phase one site plan.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Which you're not going to be
- 7 changing, I guess you're going to be doing interior work in
- 8 the building. But it's not exactly the existing conditions
- 9 plan, correct?
- 10 MR. KLINE: Correct. There is actually a separate
- 11 existing conditions plan, but to that extent the footprints
- 12 are identical.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 14 THE WITNESS: The footprints are identical,
- 15 correct.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 17 THE WITNESS: So our work in phase one is going to
- 18 be isolated to the interior of the building with the
- 19 exception of a new entrance to the north along Forest Glen
- 20 Road, and then a modification to the entrance on the
- 21 southeast corner of the building near the handicapped
- 22 parking area.
- 23 Phase two, looking at Exhibit 27B, will entail a
- 24 new two-story addition plus cellar to the south side of the
- 25 building. I've brought some other boards that are already

- 1 part of the exhibit list.
- MR. KLINE: We're in section four, Mr. Grossman,
- 3 of the elevations.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Right. I looked at the exhibit list
- 6 and tried to write down. Is this the correct number,
- 7 Exhibit 2.C.I5. Maybe I was looking at a different exhibit
- 8 list.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: You were looking at something else.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I was looking at something else.
- 11 Okay.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: This would be 4. The existing
- 13 elevations are 4D and E.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes. This is phase two --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Oh, phase two?
- THE WITNESS: -- perspective. Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. That's 4I and J, the
- 18 phase two elevations, and the perspective --
- 19 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 20 MR. GROSSMAN: -- renderings?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yes. This is K and L.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay, K and L, right.
- THE WITNESS: So 4K and L.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 25 THE WITNESS: So this first perspective of the

- 1 eastern corner of the building shows the new two-story
- 2 addition, and then the existing elevation along Omaha to the
- 3 side. The addition is approached --
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: When you say, to this side, for the
- 5 record --
- 6 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: -- which side is it?
- 8 THE WITNESS: To the Omaha side --
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 10 THE WITNESS: -- of the building. That's right.
- 11 I've got to get into using the exact terminology.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Now that you've been certified as
- 13 an expert, you've got to use that expert language.
- 14 THE WITNESS: That's right. Exactly.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Assuming you didn't come here just
- 16 so you could tell your wife you were an expert.
- 17 THE WITNESS: And my children.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 19 THE WITNESS: So the approach to the addition of
- 20 the building is to make it compatible with the existing
- 21 architecture. The existing building is brick masonry with a
- 22 precast trim around the window openings and the door
- 23 openings. So we are treating the addition in the same way.
- So to this, to the east side, you will see the
- 25 two-story building in brick with precast trim around the

1 window openings. At the entrance will be metal and glass

- 2 store front in the large classroom space on the second
- 3 floor, and then some precast stone panels that will match
- 4 the existing precast trim around the existing windows.
- 5 This next elevation is the existing elevation
- 6 along Forest Glen, and then the elevation along Omaha. And
- 7 from there you see in the background the new two-story
- 8 addition on the parking lot side of the building.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: And this next elevation is Exhibit,
- 10 which exhibit? No, the one you were just, that you just
- 11 were --
- 12 THE WITNESS: This I think is Exhibit L, 4L.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 14 THE WITNESS: All right. Now, this is going to be
- 15 Exhibit --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Yes, make sure you are accurate on
- 17 this, because we want the record to correctly reflect what
- 18 you are pointing at.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Okay. This is Exhibit 40.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Right. And this is the phase three
- 22 perspective rendering. And what you see is identical to
- 23 phase two, with the exception that we've added a second
- 24 story addition along the Omaha Beach side of the building.
- 25 And that addition is going to be consistent with the phase

1 two addition, metal and glass storefront for the windows,

- 2 and then precast concrete panels at the wall surfaces.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Are those materials
- 4 compatible with the surrounding area?
- 5 THE WITNESS: They are. The surrounding area of
- 6 the houses are predominantly brick. And obviously this is
- 7 an institutional building, so I think the glass and the
- 8 metal is compatible with what you see at Holy Cross
- 9 Hospital, for example. And then, as I noted, the precast
- 10 was chosen to be compatible with the existing trim on the
- 11 building.
- 12 And then this last rendering is Exhibit 4P. And
- 13 this is the phase three perspective rendering from the
- 14 corner at Forest Glen and Omaha showing the existing
- 15 elevation along Forest Glen, and what the new second floor
- 16 addition facing Omaha Beach Drive.
- 17 BY MR. KLINE:
- 18 Q Are you aware there has been an issue with the
- 19 height of the building that has come up?
- 20 A Yes, that's correct.
- 21 O And I know you've done a lot of calculations --
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q -- and analyses yourself. Explain to us,
- 24 basically, how we were able to proffer that the building
- 25 would meet the height limits, the limited height limits --

- 1 A Right.
- 3 located --
- 4 A Right.
- 5 Q -- using both Park and Planning's theory and our
- 6 theory.
- 7 A Right. When the issue first came up, we tried to
- 8 understand how the building could have been permitted back
- 9 in the late fifties under the zoning code, which was
- 10 basically consistent, more or less consistent with what it
- 11 is now.
- 12 And at first we looked at Forest Glen. And there
- is language in the code that talks about a building that's
- 14 on a terrace. And when we measured along Forest Glen, and
- 15 took into account the terrace, we have a building height of
- 16 about 44.4 feet. And we realized, well, that didn't meet
- 17 the zoning requirement at the time. So we --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Which was 35 feet?
- 19 THE WITNESS: 35 feet. That's correct. So we
- 20 came around and looked at Omaha Beach Drive. And Jody's
- 21 firm, Mr. Kline's firm did a lot of research into what was
- 22 in place relative to streets and relationships at the time
- 23 the building was constructed.
- And on documents relating to the transfer of the
- 25 land from Park and Planning to the Boys and Girls Club at

1 the time, Omaha was shown as what appeared to be a dedicated

- 2 street. And it was cited in all of the legal descriptions
- 3 of the property.
- 4 When we did an analysis of the building height
- 5 along Omaha for the existing building, we were able to
- 6 determine that the way that's measured is at the mid-point
- 7 of the elevation along that elevation. And in this case,
- 8 because it's a curved roof, it can be measured to the mid-
- 9 point of the shake of the roof, whether it's a gable or a
- 10 mantle or so on and so forth.
- And under that scenario, the existing building
- 12 meets the requirement. It's that midpoint is slightly under
- 13 35 feet. So that told us that that was the likely scenario
- 14 under which the existing building was permitted.
- So then we looked at our future development, both
- 16 the phase two and the phase three, and of course the
- 17 elevation is longer along Omaha than it is currently, once
- 18 we add onto the side of the building. And once we do that
- 19 calculation, again, from the midpoint, we are within that 35
- 20 foot height requirement that the zoning code sets out.
- 21 MR. GROSSMAN: So do you professionally conclude
- 22 that the existing and proposed additions to the building
- 23 will meet the height requirements of the zoning ordinance?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.

1 MR. KLINE: Mr. Grossman, what I provided to you

- 2 was a letter from, that I prepared and submitted to
- 3 Department of Permitting Services and it was countersigned
- 4 by Mr. Niblock, which basically provides the history that
- 5 Mr. Wheeler provided to you. And the Department has
- 6 indicated in a closing certification at the end, that at the
- 7 future it will treat Beattie Drive or Omaha Beach Drive, I
- 8 don't know which you want to call it, as a public street for
- 9 purposes of calculating the height of this building on this
- 10 property, although it has never been dedicated.
- 11 MR. GROSSMAN: I'm sorry, you call it Omaha Beach
- 12 Drive, and what was the other thing you called it?
- MR. KLINE: Beattie, B-E-A-T-T-I-E. The zoning
- 14 vicinity map actually has a different name for it now.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So Omaha Beach Drive is also called
- 16 Beattie Drive?
- 17 MR. KLINE: Correct.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Which is the newer name?
- 19 MR. KLINE: Beattie is the newer, though it is a
- 20 road to nowhere.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. And so Exhibit 31 is your
- 22 letter, so Kline letter of 12/14/11 to DPS regarding
- 23 building height. And DPS, that's David Niblock's sign off
- 24 agreeing to use Beattie Drive to calculate height. I just,
- 25 I mean, is that an unusual way to go about height

1 calculation to use a street such as Beattie Drive to be the

- 2 location from which you would calculate height?
- 3 (Exhibit No. 31 was
- 4 marked for identification.)
- 5 MR. KLINE: Well, the ordinance talks about the
- 6 front of the building.
- 7 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes.
- 8 MR. KLINE: And even though the building is
- 9 addressed on Forest Glen Road, the functioning front of the
- 10 building has always been Beattie Drive. This, of course, is
- 11 the phase three rendering, which is Exhibit 4P that I'm
- 12 pointing to.
- Here we've taken the entrance out, but through the
- 14 life of the building, Beattie Drive has served as the front
- 15 of the building. And so that's the theory, based on the
- 16 information that we were able to gather.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So once you take the front out of
- 18 the building on Beattie Drive, then why would you calculate
- 19 height from Beattie Drive as opposed to Forest Glen, if
- 20 that's where the front will be?
- MR. KAUFMAN: Let me clarify that the front will
- 22 not be on --
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: Well, you really, Mr. Kaufman,
- 24 don't call out.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Sorry.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes. Well, the new front of the
- 2 building is going to be along the east, the east side of the
- 3 building. Actually, the new front is going to be the
- 4 northern corner of the building. So I think just trying to
- 5 relate the calculation to what we think happened
- 6 historically, that's why we've used Beattie Drive. That's
- 7 frankly the worst case scenario.
- If we were to look at what's going to be the new
- 9 entrance up here at the northeast corner, and look at that
- 10 east elevation, we are well within the height requirements
- 11 along there.
- MR. GROSSMAN: I see.
- MR. KLINE: And may I had -- I'm sorry. Go ahead.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: And would you just be looking at
- 15 that east elevation or was that taking into account the
- 16 whole building?
- 17 THE WITNESS: It's just the facade where the
- 18 entrance is located, what they call the front of the
- 19 building.
- MR. GROSSMAN: So that's all they look at for the
- 21 height measurement?
- THE WITNESS: That's correct. Along the front,
- 23 what they call the front.
- MR. GROSSMAN: You're telling me that you can
- 25 build a building that meets the height requirement at the

1 front, and then have a 1,000 foot building in the back, and

- 2 it would meet the height requirements?
- 3 THE WITNESS: That's a good question. I think,
- 4 I'm not an expert in interpreting the zoning code. But what
- 5 that implies is that the grade would fall away. I don't
- 6 know what the condition would be behind. But the way the
- 7 zoning code reads is, the height calculation is made at the
- 8 front of the building.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Mr. Kline, you wanted to add
- 10 something?
- MR. KLINE: Well, only that you were, it actually
- 12 went back to your comment about, where is the front door.
- 13 And the front door is sort of irrelevant to the zoning
- 14 ordinance definition. Front, I'm sorry, height is measured
- 15 from the front of the building. For a corner lot, it has
- 16 two fronts, Forest Glen and Omaha Drive. And the County is
- 17 going to treat Omaha as if it was platted. So where you
- 18 have the front door really doesn't make any difference.
- In your example, again, if it was a corner lot,
- 20 you'd actually be using the average between the 1,000 feet
- 21 and the height requirement to figure out whether you would
- 22 meet the zoning ordinance standards, if it was a corner lot.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: And is this a corner lot?
- MR. KLINE: Department of Permitting Services is
- 25 going to treat it as a corner lot because of the history of

- 1 Omaha Beach Drive.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: And treating it as a corner lot, it
- 3 meets the height, it meets, the average meets the height
- 4 requirement?
- 5 MR. KLINE: Yes, on the Omaha Drive side, yes.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: You specify, on the Omaha Drive
- 7 side because of the difference in the --
- 8 MR. KLINE: Well, what I'm saying is, the average
- 9 grade as measured from here to the mid-point of the roof --
- MR. GROSSMAN: Yes.
- 11 MR. KLINE: -- is not going to be greater than 35
- 12 feet.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. All right.
- MR. KLINE: We could probably, and it would
- 15 probably be helpful if we had actually kind of given you a
- 16 cube to show you how high up this could actually go to meet
- 17 that standard. If this was level, then it would be real
- 18 easy. We would just measure to 35, but because it's the
- 19 average grade along the facade of the building.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Mr. Wheeler, do you
- 21 adopt with Mr. Kline just testified to?
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 23 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. All right. I'm satisfied
- 24 based on Mr. Wheeler's expertise and testimony to this
- 25 effect.

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1 MR. KLINE: When you go to check me, don't be
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- 2 confused, because in building height, there are actually two
- 3 definitions. One, Mr. Berliner put in the ordinance when he
- 4 did the McMansion legislation for the R-60 and R-90 zones
- 5 which we're located in, but those are only for residential
- 6 houses. There's a separate one, the classic one that is the
- 7 more common one. And that's the one that applies in this
- 8 case.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right, sir. I appreciate --
- MR. KLINE: Sure.
- MR. GROSSMAN: -- the caveat.
- MR. KLINE: Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Because you're right, I could have
- 14 made that mistake.
- MR. KLINE: Well, no, as a matter of fact, we were
- 16 talking about it earlier, and that's why Tom mentioned that.
- 17 And that is a much more restrictive definition of height.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you.
- 19 BY MR. KLINE:
- 20 Q We were talking about the lighting fixtures --
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q -- down on that back side of the building. And I
- 23 don't know if you want to do this off the site plan or off
- 24 an elevation, but would you show us where the lights are
- 25 going to go, what fixtures you're contemplating?

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1 A Sure. This is Exhibit 29A. And this is the
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- 2 special exception site plan, phase one only. And
- 3 currently --
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: No, you mean 27A.
- 5 MR. KLINE: Yes.
- 6 THE WITNESS: What did I say?
- 7 MR. KLINE: I didn't write it as neatly as an
- 8 architect would have. It's actually 27A.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 10 THE WITNESS: 27A. Thank you. At the, let's see,
- 11 I guess it's the southwestern corner of the building, the
- 12 pool is here on the southern side, and there's a walkway
- 13 that brings you from the parking lot around to the field in
- 14 the back. And there is a wooden stair that Ms. Kamen was
- 15 concerned about lighting for.
- And so we're proposing to install a building
- 17 mounted light here at what would be the southeast corner of
- 18 the building that will shine down and illuminate this stair
- 19 at that location. And then when we do the phase two work,
- 20 of course, the pool will come out, the stair will come out,
- 21 and we'll have other lighting that will address that.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So that's the
- 23 additional lighting that you're talking about that will be
- 24 reflected in the amended --
- MR. KLINE: We'll put it on the site plan for you,

1 and we'll put a fixture type on there so that you know for

- 2 sure.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 4 MR. KLINE: And as I say, it's an interim use.
- 5 The photometric plan basically covers the end state, and we
- 6 know we meet all those, but this kind of tripped us up on
- 7 the interim term.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 9 BY MR. KLINE:
- 10 Q Mr. Wheeler, kind of putting us on the big wrap up
- 11 here, is the building, in your opinion, not compatible, but
- 12 in harmony with the surrounding character, from a design
- 13 perspective, of the surrounding neighborhood?
- 14 A Yes.
- Okay. Can you elaborate on that? Why do you say
- 16 that?
- 17 A I say that because, as I've described earlier,
- 18 we're proposing materials that are consistent with a palette
- 19 of the area, extending the brick masonry on the building.
- 20 We'll work with local brick vendors to secure a matching
- 21 brick for that.
- The additional materials, this precast concrete
- 23 are already in the building, so we'll extend that and use
- 24 that on the addition. And then the introduction of the
- 25 aluminum and glass window systems is consistent with other

1 institutional buildings in the area, such as Holy Cross

- 2 Hospital.
- 3 Q And is that really more of the character of the
- 4 neighborhood given what you see on Exhibit 10, more
- 5 institutional uses surrounding it, than residential uses?
- 6 A Well, certainly it's predominantly residential
- 7 around it. But just like with the hospital, very often you
- 8 see institutional buildings in those types of contexts. So
- 9 while they are different, you can work to make them
- 10 compatible through the use of materials, controlling height,
- 11 things like that.
- MR. KLINE: That's my wrap up argument. I have no
- 13 further questions of Mr. Wheeler.
- 14 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Mr. Meininger, do you have
- 15 any questions of Mr. Wheeler?
- 16 MR. MEININGER: Yes, sir. I have one question.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Come forward, please,
- 18 to the table, where you can be heard by the microphone.
- 19 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- BY MR. MEININGER:
- 21 Q Mr. Wheeler, will you designate whether the new
- 22 entrance to the building will be facing Forest Glen, or will
- 23 be what is now the swimming pool end of the building?
- 24 A Well, there is the primary entrance of the kids
- 25 entering and exiting the school will be on the, basically

- 1 the northeast corner, near the pool.
- We are creating a new entrance facing Forest
- 3 Glen, and that, I think is going to serve mainly for kids
- 4 coming in and out of the school, going down to the play
- 5 field, to give them some access. So that way, because
- 6 currently when you look at the floor plan of the building,
- 7 there are doors facing the play field to the south, but, or
- 8 to the west, but obviously those are classroom doors.
- 9 So we need a new entrance to be able to get the
- 10 kids in and out of the building conveniently. So we're
- 11 going to place that one on Forest Glen.
- In phase two and three, that entrance will remain
- 13 to get play field access, but again, the main entrance of
- 14 the school will remain at that northeast corner there,
- 15 basically on the parking lot side and away from Forest Glen.
- MR. MEININGER: Thank you, Mr. Wheeler. That's
- 17 all.
- 18 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Any redirect as a result of
- 19 Mr. Meininger's question.
- 20 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. KLINE:
- 22 Only, you mentioned northeast facing the pool. I
- 23 probably would call that southeast.
- 24 A Southeast.
- 25 Q Southeast. That's all.

1 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Any recross based on

- 2 that clarification, Mr. Meininger?
- 3 MR. MEININGER: No. That's why I used Forest Glen
- 4 and the swimming pool.
- 5 MR. KLINE: Yes, right.
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. Thank you, sir.
- 7 MR. KLINE: I have no further questions of
- 8 Mr. Wheeler.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: All right. I don't think I do
- 10 either. Thank you, Mr. Wheeler, and congratulations --
- MR. WHEELER: Thank you.
- 12 MR. GROSSMAN: -- initiation to the field of
- 13 expertise, well, not the field, but the testifying part of
- 14 expertise. How is that? All right. That concludes your
- 15 witnesses?
- MR. KLINE: It does, Mr. Grossman.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. And do you have any
- 18 additional exhibits? Well, I know you have the affidavit of
- 19 posting, which you said you --
- MR. KLINE: I will still provide you. And that
- 21 will be here by 1:00 probably.
- 22 MR. GROSSMAN: -- will provide. All right.
- 23 MR. KLINE: Well, maybe not. 2 o=clock.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So I presume you wish
- 25 all the exhibits and their sub-parts to be in evidence?

1 MR. KLINE: That have been submitted to date, yes,

- 2 sir.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- 4 MR. KLINE: And the exhibits in the record.
- 5 MR. GROSSMAN: So Exhibits 1 through 31 and their
- 6 subparts, will be admitted. We'll also admit the affidavit
- 7 of posting when it arrives. And there are going to be some
- 8 additional revised plans referred to today, and the
- 9 transportation management plan, and the revised statement of
- 10 operations, all of which will be admitted when we see,
- 11 subject to review by technical staff and any public
- 12 commentary.
- So what we need to do is set a date by which you
- 14 are going to submit things, and then we have to give
- 15 technical staff and the public 15 days in which to respond
- 16 before we can close the record. And if you want additional
- 17 time to respond to any responses, we can give you that, too.
- 18 So when will you be able to get all of your additional
- 19 exhibits in?
- 20 (Exhibit Nos. 1-31 were
- 21 received in evidence.)
- 22 MR. KLINE: Can I have one second, please?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Certainly. I'll give you two
- 24 seconds.
- 25 (Discussion off the record.)

- 1 MR. KLINE: Thank you, Mr. Grossman.
- 2 MR. GROSSMAN: Sure.
- MR. KLINE: We have two things to do. One is part
- 4 of the narrative, the amended statement of operations and
- 5 the traffic management plan. I'll have them in the client's
- 6 hands literally today. They will want to talk to their
- 7 neighbors and everything. But I think that that and the
- 8 graphic materials requirement can be submitted to you by
- 9 Tuesday of next week.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. But let's be realistic,
- 11 because what we said at this public hearing and announce at
- 12 the public hearing I can't change without actually issuing
- 13 an order that has to go out to people, which is a more
- 14 complicated thing. So make sure you give yourself enough
- 15 time to actually get it in.
- MR. KLINE: Well, I was going to put some pressure
- 17 on Mr. Meininger. Did he leave, though?
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He'll be back.
- MR. KLINE: Okay, because frankly, I know of all
- 20 the stuff we can draw, we can do it within that time frame,
- 21 but whatever coordination occurs with him, I guess is, we
- 22 need to wait until he comes back.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- MR. KLINE: But I'd like to think that he would
- 25 probably is interested in trying to wrap this up quickly,

1 also. So I think Tuesday is still probably a reasonable

- 2 time frame for us to deliver everything.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. Let me get a calendar here.
- 4 MR. KLINE: And that would all be simultaneously
- 5 transmitted to Ms. Kamen who --
- 6 MR. GROSSMAN: Right.
- 7 MR. KLINE: -- as you know is very diligent in
- 8 getting stuff done.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Indeed. But she, for the
- 10 transportation management plan, will have to go to the
- 11 transportation division to have them review it. So I'm not
- 12 sure. Somewhere in here I have 2012 calendar. Okay. All
- 13 right. So next Tuesday will be the 10th. I don't see
- 14 Mr. Meininger back here yet. Shall we say January 11, which
- 15 is the Wednesday. There he is.
- MR. KLINE: You've become the man of the hour.
- 17 May I?
- MR. GROSSMAN: Certainly.
- MR. KLINE: Mr. Meininger, why don't you come on
- 20 up here.
- MR. GROSSMAN: We need to set some dates by when
- 22 things are going to be in, in order to -- and we have to
- 23 give, once the revised plans and the transportation
- 24 management plan and the revised statement of operations are
- 25 all in, we then have to give technical staff 15 days, and

1 the public 15 days for any commentary. So we're trying to

- 2 figure out a date by which you all can get together to agree
- 3 on the transportation management plan and statement of
- 4 operations.
- 5 MR. KLINE: And what I proffered to the hearing
- 6 examiner was that the transportation management plan and the
- 7 amended statement of operations, probably not too important
- 8 to you, could be done this afternoon. So I can transmit to
- 9 my clients today something that they could share with you
- 10 over the weekend?
- 11 MR. MEININGER: I'm available.
- 12 MR. KLINE: Okay. And what I had told
- 13 Mr. Grossman is, I thought we would have everything ready
- 14 to be submitted next Tuesday, if you felt you could
- 15 coordinate with Mr. Kaufman by that time. Is that too much
- 16 of a pressure on you?
- MR. MEININGER: No, sir, it's not.
- 18 MR. KLINE: Okay. Then I would say Tuesday then.
- 19 MR. GROSSMAN: All right.
- MR. KLINE: Thank you.
- MR. GROSSMAN: The reason I said to leave enough
- 22 time is because once I announce it at the public hearing, I
- 23 can't change it just by a telephone call. I have to issue
- 24 an order. So I want to make sure that we have enough time
- 25 to do that. So we're all locked in.

1 So by January 10 all the additional submissions

- 2 and revisions, and don't forget my electronic copies --
- 3 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
- 4 MR. GROSSMAN: -- of all of those in Word for the
- 5 text documents and in PDF format for the plan changes. And
- 6 then counting 15 days from that would take us to January 25.
- 7 And --
- 8 MR. KLINE: And I don't need any extra time to
- 9 look at anything myself.
- 10 MR. GROSSMAN: This is a first, will be the first
- 11 time this transportation management plan is out, so you
- 12 could get some inquiries from the public. Are you sure you
- don't want a couple of days to respond before the record
- 14 closes?
- MR. KLINE: Well, given that we're going to be
- 16 sharing it with Mr. Meininger in advance of our submitting
- 17 it to you, I am inclined to think he's not likely to say
- 18 anything after the fact. I don't want to speak for you, but
- 19 if I get it right the first time, he probably won't have any
- 20 complaints the second time.
- MR. GROSSMAN: Well, he's not the only member of
- 22 the public.
- 23 MR. KLINE: Well no, that's true. That's true.
- 24 Yes.
- MR. GROSSMAN: It will have access to anybody. But

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1 I'll close the record on January 25 if that's what you want.
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- 2 MR. KLINE: You've seen the tenor of the hearing.
- 3 MR. GROSSMAN: Yes, I understand.
- 4 MR. KLINE: I just don't think there's going to be
- 5 any objections, because what we are doing is tightening up
- 6 all the things we've been telling people we're going to be
- 7 doing.
- 8 MR. GROSSMAN: So I'm assuming that staff can do
- 9 their review of these things within the 15-day period.
- 10 MR. KLINE: I'm not aware of Ms. Kamen having
- 11 something on the Planning Board on like the 12th or
- 12 something like that. She was relieved to get this off her
- 13 desk to move onto other things. So she's very diligent and
- 14 I will talk to her and make sure she can get it done in
- 15 time.
- MR. GROSSMAN: All right. So the dates we have
- 17 will be January 10, 2012, for the updated plans, the site
- 18 plan, lighting plan, landscape plan, and for submission of a
- 19 transportation management plan and a revised statement of
- 20 operations which will include specificity as to the events
- 21 that may create parking, additional parking demands and
- 22 traffic demands on the community. And that will all be
- 23 submitted by close of business on January 10, 2012, both to
- 24 staff and to our public file for public inspection.
- 25 And then 15 days later, there will be 15 days of

1 open for public comments on these new plans and documents,

- 2 and the record will close on January 25, 2012. Please,
- 3 since you are going to be talking to Ms. Kamen, also ask
- 4 her, I would like something from her, it can be in e-mail
- 5 format and she should copy you as well, indicating her
- 6 review of these plans, revised plans, and the transportation
- 7 management plan, and the statement of operations.
- 8 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
- 9 MR. GROSSMAN: Okay. And my report is due 30 days
- 10 after the record closes. Then it goes to the Board of
- 11 Appeals. You have 10 days after I, from the time issue my
- 12 report, you get notice. You will get a direct notice,
- 13 Mr. Meininger, of the report and the website address. The
- 14 full report will be on the website so you can look over the
- 15 full report. You have 10 days thereafter to request oral
- 16 argument, if you wish to, before the Board of Appeals. The
- 17 Board of Appeals sets a hearing date. It's not really a
- 18 hearing. It's at their worksession.
- They then, they don't take any additional
- 20 evidence. All the evidence is from the record that is
- 21 compiled here. And they sometimes allow oral argument,
- 22 sometimes not. And at the worksession, they then vote on
- 23 whether or not to approve the recommendation of the hearing
- 24 examiner or to modify it if they wish to.
- 25 And then when the, usually in three or four weeks

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after that, a formal resolution comes out from the Board of
1
2
    Appeals. That's the usual program. All right. Is there
3
    anything further that we need to address?
 4
              MR. KLINE: No. Thank you very much.
 5
              MR. GROSSMAN: Thank you all. You have a great
    weekend. It is Friday, isn't it Mr. Kline? Thank you.
6
    Don't forget to leave the plans that we did introduce here.
8
              MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
9
              (Whereupon, at 1:03 p.m., the hearing was
10
    concluded.)
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DEPOSITION SERVICES, INC., hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcript of the electronic sound recording of the proceedings before the Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings for Montgomery County in the matter of:

Petition of Siena Learning, LLC Special Exception No. S-2822 OZAH No. 12-11

By:

Teresa S. Hinds, Transcriber

Decesa Stirles